THE

# CENSUS OF CEYLON,

# 1891.

## VOLUME I.

# GENERAL REPORT.

Colombo:

PRINTED BY GEORGE J. A. SKELN, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON

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1892

# CENSUS OF CEYLON, 1891:

## IN THREE VOLUMES.

VOLUME I.

CONTAINING

## A GENERAL REPORT.

VOLUME II.

CONTAINING

## DETAILED TABLES OF AREA AND POPULATION,

EXHIBITING

POPULATION BY AGE, NATIONALITY, BIRTHPLACE, EDUCATION, RELIGION, AND OCCUPATION.

VOLUME III.

CONTAINING

## A LIST OF TOWNS AND VILLAGES

*ALPHABETICALLY ARRANGED IN PROVINCES, DISTRICTS, KÓRALÉS, AND PATTUS,*

TOGETHER WITH THE

HOUSES, FAMILIES, AND POPULATION THEREIN.

COMPILED BY LIONEL LEE,
(CEYLON CIVIL SERVICE,)
*SUPERINTENDENT OF CENSUS.*

Ordered by His Excellency the Governor to be Printed.

Colombo:
PRINTED BY GEORGE J. A. SKEEN, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

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# CENSUS OF CEYLON, 1891.

## CHAPTER I.

### THE METHOD OF CARRYING OUT THE CENSUS, AND THE TABULATION OF THE RESULTS.

The date of the Census—Reasons for the selection of that date—Local advantage of the date selected—Favourable weather—The instructions of Government—System to be that followed in 1881: its advantages—Duties of the headmen—The preliminary form—The house list—Object of these forms—Appointment of enumerators—The enumerator's block—Wages of an enumerator—Preliminary arrangements—Necessity of early appointment of enumerators—Machinery employed in enumeration—Opinions as to the accuracy of the Census—Work in the Municipalities—Demeanour of the people—Definition of the term "house"—The householder's schedule—Caste—Civil condition—Lepers—Special schedules—Despatch of forms—Return of schedules—Village abstract—The advice note—Scrutiny of schedules—The register of schedules—Distribution of clerks into different departments—The working tables—Method of checking—Quantity directly checked—Indirect check—The abstracting—Preparation of tabular statements.

THE third Census of Ceylon was taken on the night of the 26th–27th February, 1891. — The date of the Census.

2. This date had been already selected by the Government of India for the Census of the Empire, and in directing that the Census here should be taken at the same time the Government of Ceylon followed the precedent of 1881. The connection between Southern India and Ceylon is so intimate, and the great demand for labour and the increased facilities of carriage have made intercourse so constant, that a continuous stream of men, women, and children is now passing to and fro. The taking of the Census of Southern India and Ceylon at different times would therefore lead to the exclusion of a large number of persons. — Reasons for the selection of that date.

3. For purely local reasons, too, a day in February is preferable to any later date. During that month dry weather may be anticipated throughout the Island; and the movement of the Sinhalese people towards their homes, which begins to take place towards the end of March, in preparation for the annual national festival, has not yet begun. — Local advantage of the date selected.

4. The night of the 26th–27th February was dry, and bright moonlight assisted the enumerators. — Favourable weather

5. In May, 1890, the Government gave final orders that a Census should be taken in the following year. — The instructions of Government.

6. It was determined to adopt the system followed in 1881, of which the results had, in the opinion of those competent to judge, proved the efficacy, and the rules subsequently made were little more than a revival of those issued in 1880 and 1881. There were a number of headmen in each district who had taken part in the enumeration in the previous decade, and it was an advantage that they should not have to forget what they had once learnt. — System to be that followed in 1881. Its advantages.

7. The headmen were first called upon to supply, as to each village, the particulars required by the "Preliminary Form" and the "House List." — Duties of the headmen.

These were designed to give the details of which a knowledge was necessary to the officer upon whom depended the furnishing of the machinery for the enumeration of the people.

8. The Preliminary Form gave the number of houses built, or in course of building, occupied and unoccupied; the number of churches, &c.; the number of schools; the names of the navigable waterways, of halting-places for boats, of cart roads, of halting-places for carts and cattle; the number and situation of resthouses, amblams, and "ruppas"; the number and situation of cooly lines and hospitals; the names of estates; and the number and names of mines. — The preliminary form.

9. The House List gave the number of the house, the name of the head of the family, the situation of the house, and the language, if any, which the head of the family could read and write. — The house list.

Object of these forms

10. From the details furnished by these papers as to each village, it was easy to judge what provision was necessary for the enumeration of the people. It was required that these papers should be sent in by the local headmen in sufficient time to allow of their being checked, and I attached great importance to the efficient supervision of this portion of the programme.

Appointment of enumerators

11. The principle that the headman should be the enumerator of his village, and that where he required assistance he should choose his own nominees, was found to work well, and I recommended that the same system should be adopted in 1891.

The enumerator's block

12. It was laid down that the number of houses in an enumerator's block should never exceed one hundred, and it was pointed out that the true test of the proper extent of a block was the distance to be travelled by the enumerator, and the number of schedules which he had to fill in.

Wages of an enumerator

13. The wages of an enumerator were generally not to exceed seven rupees, but it was found necessary frequently to exceed this rate, and especially in urban districts.

Preliminary arrangements

14. The preliminary arrangements were well advanced, if not entirely completed, early in January in most Districts, although in the Eastern Province there was considerable delay in the appointment of enumerators; and in the Colombo Municipality arrangements were so much postponed as to cause grave anxiety for the result.

Necessity of early appointment of enumerators.

15. It is impossible that the enumerators can either learn their work or make themselves familiar with the contents of their blocks if their appointment is postponed to two or three days before the taking of the Census. In no other undertaking is there more need for timely and methodical arrangement, for the accuracy of the subsequent enumeration can only be measured by the perfection of the means employed.

Machinery employed in enumeration

16. The machinery upon which so much of the administration of the Island depends was made use of for Census purposes. The chiefs of divisions and the village headmen possess an intimate knowledge of places and of the people belonging to them, which could not be acquired by a stranger except by a long residence. These officers, therefore, naturally and effectively performed the duties of enumerators under the immediate supervision of their official chiefs, upon whom depended all the work of superintendence and arrangement. There were some Districts in which the work was better done than in others; and in some it would perhaps have been better if personal attention to details had been given earlier, but in the midst of many pressing important duties it is hard to find a place for another; and the thanks of the Government are due to the Government Agents and their Assistants, and to the Native Chiefs of Districts, who undertook the conduct of operations requiring care and exertion.

Opinions as to the accuracy of the Census.

17. It is the general opinion that the work was accurately and properly performed.

The Government Agent of the Central Province attributes "the successful result of the Census" to the care and attention devoted to it by his Office Assistant, Mr. Thorburn, to whose intelligent instruction of the enumerators I was myself witness.

The Government Agent of the Northern Province has been good enough to furnish a memorandum testifying to the personal care and attention given in his Kachchéri to details, and the schedules sent in from Jaffna showed how well the work was done.

The Government Agent of the Southern Province sees no reason to doubt the general accuracy of the Census.

The Government Agent of the Eastern Province states that all the information which has reached him leads him to believe in the general accuracy of the results, and he adds that special attention had been given to securing a proper enumeration of the Mohammedan women.

The Government Agent of the North-Central Province is of opinion that the Census was most carefully and accurately taken. He thinks that it could not be more accurately taken, and he found the preliminary Census very useful.

The Government Agent of Uva considers the Census in his Province to be fairly accurate.

The Government Agent of Sabaragamuwa believes the results in his District to have been generally accurate.

The Government Agent of the Western Province is "not aware what the results of the Census in the Colombo District are." But as the preliminary arrangements were made under the personal supervision of the Government Agent and of Mr. De Saram (who had worked with me in 1881), there is every reason to believe that they were efficacious.

The Assistant Government Agents of Districts are unanimous in thinking that accurate results have been obtained.

Work in the Municipalities.

18. The work in the Colombo Municipality was undertaken by the Chairman. In the Kandy and Galle Municipalities all the necessary arrangements were made by the Secretaries (Major Byrde and Mr. Anthonisz), and were complete and effectual.

Demeanour of the people.

19. No difficulty appears to have occurred in obtaining a sufficient number of enumerators; and the demeanour of the people throughout was satisfactory.

Definition of the term "house."

20. The difficulty, which has not yet been satisfactorily surmounted, as to the definition of a house again presented itself. The Indian definition was adopted, and it was taken to be "the dwelling-place of one or more families with their resident servants, having a separate principal entrance from the public or common way." This appears to be the best attainable definition, but it is not easily intelligible, and was subjected to much criticism.

The householder's schedule.

21. The Householder's Schedule, which was printed with the headings in English, Sinhalese, and Tamil on the one sheet, differed in some respects from that employed at the last Census. It omitted the entry of the description of the house. No use was made of the information, which, from the confusion existing in the Sinhalese mind between a house and room, was never accurate. The size of the sheet was larger, and it contained space for ten instead of eight names. The addition of a column for "birthplace" has contributed much important information, and enabled me to furnish interesting details of the movements of the people.

Caste.

22. A suggestion was made that the schedule should have a column for "caste." A like proposal was rejected in 1880, and although the details would have been interesting, caste is not in Ceylon so important a factor in social life as it is in India; and the inquiry would have led the people to think that an importance was now attached to an institution which it has been the declared policy of the Government of Ceylon to disregard.

Civil condition.

23. The usual inquiry as to civil or conjugal condition—that is, as to whether persons are married or single—was also omitted as it was in 1880. So long as it is uncertain what constitutes a marriage in Ceylon, it is useless to inquire whether persons are married or not.

Lepers.

24. I desired an inquiry as to the number of lepers and a column introduced for that purpose, but it was thought that accurate answers would not be given, and that it was best to leave such an inquiry to other machinery.

Special schedules.

25. Special schedules were supplied containing the same headings, but on larger sheets, for the enumeration of the "outdoor" and estate population, the inmates of schools and hospitals, and shipping.

Despatch of forms.

26. The whole of the necessary forms were supplied direct from the Government Printing Office to the local officers, and the manner in which these arrangements were carried out is best proved by the fact that I can remember but two complaints. The Chairman of the Colombo Municipality complained of not having received forms, of which the receipt had been acknowledged by his Assistant several days earlier, and the Government Agent at Batticaloa telegraphed for a large quantity, which had already been delivered some days before by steamer.

Return of schedules.

27. The schedules of the Colombo Municipality were the first returned, and the stream was continuous for several weeks. In the Batticaloa District (where it was found necessary to send an officer to correct schedules improperly filled up) and in the Hambantota District there was some delay: but the preliminary figures for the Island were published in May.

Village abstract.

28. An abstract was prepared for each village, giving the name of the village, the number of the schedules consecutively, and the number of males and females enumerated on each schedule. From this abstract, which was first checked, the totals of the population for the preliminary report were made up in my office.

The advice note.

29. With every package of schedules an advice note was forwarded, of which a counterfoil reached me by post. This advice note stated the means by which the package had been despatched, and gave the names of the villages of which the schedules were included, and the name of the Pattu or Kóralé in which the village was situate. The contents of the package were checked, and the advice note returned receipted to the despatching office. The lists of villages given in the despatching notes were checked with the lists which had already been sent in, to detect the omission of any village.

Scrutiny of schedules.

30. In making up the totals for the preliminary report the schedules were scrutinised, and manifest errors were referred for correction.

The register of schedules.

31. The schedules of each village were then made up into packets, and the packets into bundles, which were catalogued into registers. A register was opened for each District, to which a letter was assigned: and to every bundle of schedules of the District was given this letter and a consecutive number. For each bundle a distinct entry was made in the register, and opposite each entry were five slips marked I., II., III., IV., and C. The figures referred to the working tables and the letter to the checking. When the tabulating or checking clerk required a bundle, he went to the clerk in charge of the register, and was given a slip with the number of the table on which he was engaged, and his name was entered. The slip allowed him to obtain the bundle of that letter and number from the press, and on its return he brought back the slip, and the registering clerk was responsible for the return of the bundle. This system (which I owe as I do very much else to the ingenuity of my assistant, Mr. J. A. Ohlmus) worked admirably. It ensured regularity, and prevented a bundle going into the hands of the same clerk for more than one process.

Distribution of clerks into different departments.

32. In 1881 the clerks were allowed to go from one working table to another, changing from the "Ages" table to the "Literate" and from the "Literate" to the "Occupation," but it was found elsewhere that better work was done if the clerks were divided and kept constantly to one table. This made the eye and hand

familiar with it, and ensured an automatic use of the table, which was lost if the clerk was allowed to wander from one to the other. The staff was therefore in 1891 divided into five rooms: "Ages," "Literates," "Occupations," "Birthplaces," and "Checking."

The working tables.

33. The first table, which was that used in the "Ages" room, provided by a system of marks for the entry of the particulars of ages, sexes, nationalities, religions, and infirmities.

The second contained the entry of nationalities, sexes, number of children under 14, India-born persons, scholars according to age-periods, and occupations. This was the most difficult form, and required something more than mechanical working.

The third form provided for the entry by sex, nationality, and religion of those able to read and write, and unable; and in this form was entered the number of Roman Catholics.

The fourth took the particulars of birthplaces with sexes and nationalities.

Of the first, second, and third form each tabulating clerk was required to supply a certain number of entries in the week with a stated allowance for error. Where a clerk did more than the work required of him, he received a bonus, while if he did less he was punished by a fine.

Method of checking.

34. The most important portion of the work of the Census Office lies in the checking of the tabulation. This check may be either direct—that is, the same work being done over again on the same working table—or indirect, by the comparison in the course of abstracting of different tables containing some of the same particulars.

Quantity directly checked.

35. The direct check was adopted as to 35 per cent. of Tables II. and IV., as to 33 per cent. of Table III., and as to 30 per cent. of Table I. One-third of the whole of the work was thus subjected to this check.

Indirect check.

36. But the indirect check applied to the whole of the work. The tabulation of each village on each of the four forms was done separately, so that at any time from the working tables could be gathered as to any single village the results which are given in the printed tables as to Districts. These results were compared as to each table, and if they agreed the tabulation was assumed to be correct. If they disagreed, the error was discovered and corrected.

If reference is made to what I have already said in describing the tables and their contents, it will be seen in how many particulars they require agreement as a test of accuracy.

No indirect means could be devised of testing the accuracy of the entries of occupations and birthplaces, and it was therefore necessary to assume that if these tables were in other respects accurate, accuracy had been maintained in these particulars.

The abstracting.

37. The process following the tabulation was the abstracting. This required that the totals of the villages should be made up, first into Pattus and Koralés, and then into Districts, and then again into Provinces. In the course of this process, which was most laborious, and in the comparison of the results which called for great care, any differences were at once revealed. The adjustment of these differences required much time and patience. Where one statement differed from another in any particular in which agreement was necessary, the figures were followed back to the Census schedule until the correct result was obtained, leading perhaps to corrections in many of the tables, but ultimately establishing complete accuracy.

Preparation of tabular statements.

38. In the preparation of the tabular statements which accompany this report the same process of comparison of results and investigation of differences was continued until complete agreement justified the acceptance of the figures as accurate.

39. I shall have occasion in a future chapter to write of the expenditure of time and money incurred in the Census of 1891. Economy in both respects was studied, but it was not forgotten that saving of money and expeditious working would be dearly purchased at the cost of accuracy.

## CHAPTER II.

### THE AREA OF THE ISLAND AND ITS DIVISIONS, AND THE DENSITY OF POPULATION.

Division of the Island into Provinces and Districts: creation of new Provinces and Districts—Existing divisions—Increase in number of villages—Area of Ceylon: comparison with countries in Europe—Ceylon and the Provinces of India compared—Analysis of figures of density of Districts in Ceylon—Variation in the density of Districts of the same Province—Similar variations in the divisions of Districts—Variations of density in the Jaffna District; in the Colombo District; in the Kandy District; in the Galle District—Density in the Municipality of Colombo—Density in other Urban Districts. Villages, their numbers and population—Density per house.

Division of the Island into Provinces and Districts.

Creation of new Provinces and Districts.

WHEN the Census of Ceylon was taken in 1881 the Island was divided into seven Provinces, containing, with the territory attached to the Colombo Municipality, twenty-two Districts and 12,439 villages. In February, 1886, the District of Badulla, which had hitherto formed part of the Central Province, was created a new Province, designated the Province of Uva; and in January, 1889, the Districts of Ratnapura and Kégalla, making part of the Western Province, were formed into a Province with the title of the Province of Sabaragamuwa. In November, 1887, the Puttalam District of the North-Western Province was divided, making the Puttalam and Chilaw Districts.

Existing divisions.

2. The Island is now divided into nine Provinces and twenty-three Districts, containing 13,088 villages.

Increase in the number of villages.

3. It will be observed that the number of villages has increased by 649 in the decade. In the Galle District of the Southern Province the number has risen from 497 to 779. This increase is not attributable to the formation and settling of new villages, but to the making into distinct villages of hamlets which had been portions of larger villages and been included in them. In the same way, in the Central Province the number of villages in the Kandy District increased from 724 to 945, and in the Nuwara Eliya District from 263 to 347. In the North-Central Province and in the Vavuniya District of the Northern Province villages have been abandoned, and new villages made without material alteration of the number of villages remaining. These movements of the people are induced either by the search for water for purposes of cultivation or by the superstition which directs the abandonment of a village in which some disease-bearing devil has established himself, and given warning of his presence by the occurrence of deaths. This cause has also led to the abandonment of villages in the Mátalé District of the Central Province.

Area of Ceylon Comparison with countries of Europe.

4. Ceylon is computed to have an area of 25,333 square miles, or 32 square miles less than was ascertained by computation in 1881. In extent it is rather larger than Greece, and contains about half the area of England. In the numbers of its population it most nearly approaches Switzerland, but as to density of population it considerably exceeds both Spain and Greece. The accompanying table shows for purposes of comparison the area, population, and density of the principal countries of Europe and of Ceylon:—

Table showing the Area, Population, and Density of Countries in Europe and of Ceylon.

| Countries. | Area in English square miles. | Population. | Density per square mile. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Russia in Europe | 2,095,504 | 95,870,810 | 45 |
| Russia in Asia | 6,564,778 | 17,483,839 | 2 |
| Austria | 115,903 | 23,895,833 | 206 |
| Hungary | 125,039 | 17,180,971 | 137 |
| German Empire | 211,168 | 48,512,000 | 229·7 |
| France | 204,023 | 38,480,000 | 188·6 |
| Spain | 197,670 | 17,550,246 | 88 |
| Italy | 114,410 | 30,947,306 | 270·4 |
| Portugal | 34,038 | 4,708,178 | 138·3 |
| Greece | 25,041 | 2,187,208 | 87 |
| Switzerland | 15,892 | 2,940,553 | 185 |
| Belgium | 11,373 | 6,093,798 | 535 |
| Prussia | 136,073 | 29,416,450 | 216 |
| Denmark | 14,124 | 2,151,000 | 152 |
| Netherlands | 12,648 | 4,548,596 | 359·6 |
| Saxony | 5,856 | 3,182,003 | 543 |
| England | 50,823 | 27,482,104 | 540·7 |
| Wales | 7,363 | 1,518,914 | 206·3 |
| Scotland | 30,417 | 4,033,103 | 132·6 |
| Ireland | 32,583 | 4,706,162 | 144·4 |
| Ceylon | 25,333 | 3,007,789 | 119 |

Ceylon and the Provinces of India compared

5. To enable a comparison to be instituted between Ceylon and the Provinces of India, the accompanying statement will be found useful, giving the areas, density of population, number of villages and houses to the square mile, and number of persons to a house. It will be observed that the population in Upper Burmah is not more thickly packed than in the Eastern Province of Ceylon, while in Oudh the density is lower than that of the Western Province, which, however, it most nearly approaches :—

Statement showing the Area, Villages, Houses, and Population in India according to the Census of 1891.

| Provinces | | Area in square miles. | Villages, Townships, &c. | Population. | Average Number of Persons per square mile. | Villages, &c., per square mile. | Persons per Village &c. | Houses per square mile. | Persons per occupied Houses |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ajmere ... | Merwara ... | 2,711 | 745 | 542,358 | 200 | ·27 | 728 | 37 | 5·34 |
| Assam and | North Lushai ... | 49,004 | 17,160 | 5,476,833 | 112 | ·35 | 319 | 23 | 4·89 |
| Bengal ... | British Territory ... | 150,639 | — | 71,270,302 | 473 | — | -- | 90 | 5·28 |
| | Feudatory states ... | 36,634 | 19,744 | 3,362,694 | 92 | ·54 | 170 | 17 | 5·4 |
| Berar | ... ... | 17,718 | 5,826 | 2,897,491 | 164 | ·33 | 497 | 33 | 4·9 |
| Bombay .. | British Territory ... | 77,275 | 21,453 | 15,985,270 | 207 | ·28 | 745 | 37 | 5·59 |
| | Feudatory States ... | 69,045 | 15,453 | 8,059,298 | 117 | ·22 | 522 | 23 | 5·05 |
| Sindh ... | British Territory ... | 47,852 | 3,750 | 2,871,774 | 60 | ·08 | 766 | 11· | 5·57 |
| | Feudatory States ... | | (Included in | Bombay Feudatories) | | | | | |
| Burma ... | Lower ... | 87,957 | 17,788 | 4,658,627 | 53 | ·2 | 262 | 10 | 5·36 |
| | Upper ... | 83,473 | 10,981 | 2,946,933 | 35 | ·13 | 268 | 7 | 5·31 |
| Central | British Territory ... | 86,501 | 33,827 | 10,784,287 | 125 | ·39 | 319 | 25 | 4·99 |
| Provinces | Feudatory States ... | 29,435 | 10,984 | 2,160,511 | 73 | ·37 | 197 | 14 | 5·28 |
| Coorg | ... ... | 1,583 | 507 | 173,055 | 109 | ·32 | 341 | 17 | 6·46 |
| Madras ... | British Territory ... | 141 193 | 56,957 | 35,630,440 | 252 | ·4 | 626 | 47 | 5·31 |
| | Feudatory States ... | 9,609 | 1,306 | 3,700,622 | 385 | ·14 | 2,834 | 76 | 5·09 |
| North-West | British Territory ... | 82,847 | 81,857 | 34,252,271 | 413 | ·99 | 418 | 72 | 5·76 |
| Provinces | Feudatory States ... | — | 2,318 | 792,491 | — | — | 342 | | 5·97 |
| Oudh | ... ... | 24,655 | 24,375 | 12,650,831 | 513 | ·99 | 519 | 93 | 5·55 |
| Punjab ... | British Territory ... | 110,667 | 34,842 | 20,866,847 | 189 | 31 | 599 | 29 | 6·55 |
| | Feudatory States ... | 38,299 | 20,115 | 4,263,280 | 111 | ·53 | 212 | 19 | 5·97 |
| British | Quetta ... | — | 2 | 27,270 | — | — | 13635 | — | 6 |
| Beluchistan | Beluchistan ... | — | — | 145,417 | — | — | — | — | — |
| Feudatory States | Baroda ... | 8,226 | 3,043 | 2,415,396 | 294 | ·37 | 794 | 66 | 4·48 |
| | Central India ... | 75,230 | 32,471 | 10,314,787 | 137 | ·43 | 318 | 26 | 5·26 |
| | Cochin ... | | (Included in | Madras Feudatories) | | | | | |
| | Hyderabad ... | 82,698 | 20,087 | 11,537,040 | 140 | ·24 | 574 | 28 | 5·06 |
| | Kashmir ... | 80,900 | 8,319 | 2,543,952 | 31 | ·1 | 306 | 6 | 5·68 |
| | Mysore ... | 28,082 | 16,883 | 4,943,604 | 176 | ·6 | 293 | 32 | 5·53 |
| | Rajputana ... | 131,692 | 30,423 | 12,016,102 | 91 | ·23 | 395 | 17 | 5·52 |
| | Travancore ... | | (Included in | Madras Feudatories) | | | | | |
| | Total ... | 1,553,925 | 491,216 | 287,289,783 | 185 | ·35 | 440 | 34 | 5·43 |
| Ceylon ... | ... ... | 25,333 | 13,088* | 3,007,789 | 119 | ·52 | 229 | 21 | 5·6 |

* Including Colombo

Analysis of figures of density of Districts in Ceylon

6. Leaving that comparison of Ceylon with other countries which was necessary to fix its position, I proceed to an analysis of the figures affecting the various divisions of the Island.

The Western Province, in which is included Colombo, having the smallest area, has the highest population and the greatest density. The metropolitan population being deducted it still maintains this position. Next to it in order of population, but not of area, comes the Southern Province; but its average density is diminished by the large area of sparsely populated country in the Hambantota District which is included in it. The Central Province comes third in the numbers of its people (of whom a very considerable portion are strangers), but since the Badulla District went to form the new Province of Uva its area is hardly greater than that of the Southern Province. The North-Western Province has twice the area of the Western with less than half its people, and contains in the Puttalam District large tracts of almost unpopulated waste. The Northern Province has a larger area than the North-Western, but a smaller population, for although the northern divisions of the peninsula contain a large number of people densely packed, the southern portion of the Province, with more than three-fourths of the entire area, has hardly more than one-tenth of the whole population. Next to the Northern Province as to numbers is the new Province of Sabaragamuwa, made up of the two Districts of the Western Province which possessed Kandyan traditions, and are governed by Kandyan law, and were in the old days a part of the Kandyan Provinces. As will be seen hereafter, there are portions of this Province in which there is a thick population, while in other portions villages and people are few and far distant. The Province of Uva, which was till lately the Badulla District of the Central Province, has the next place in population, but in area it surpasses all the Provinces already mentioned save the Northern. First in extent of territory, the Eastern Province is last but one

in the number of inhabitants; but the North-Central Province, which almost equals it in area, has little more than half its number of people.

| | Villages per square mile. | Persons per Village | Houses per square mile. | Persons per House. | Persons per Family. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Ceylon** ... | **·52** ... | **229** ... | **21** ... | **5·6** ... | **5·4** |
| Western Province ... | 1·1 ... | 478 ... | 97 ... | 5·5 ... | 5·4 |
| Sabaragamuwa ... | ·72 ... | 187 ... | 23 ... | 5·2° ... | 5·1° |
| North-Western Province ... | 1·2 ... | 88 ... | 23 ... | 4·6 ... | 4·6 |
| Central Province ... | ·77 ... | 267 ... | 27 ... | 4·7° ... | 4·6° |
| Province of Uva ... | ·28 ... | 182 ... | 6·5 ... | 6·1° ... | 4·8° |
| North-Central Province ... | ·27 ... | 69 ... | 4·5 ... | 4·1 ... | 4·1 |
| Northern Province ... | ·23 ... | 415 ... | 17·2 ... | 5·5 ... | 4·7 |
| Eastern Province ... | ·1 ... | 358 ... | 7 ... | 5·4 ... | 5·2 |
| Southern Province ... | ·73 ... | 313 ... | 45 ... | 5·1 ... | 5 |

* The Estates population is excluded from the calculations.

7. If the people of Ceylon were equally distributed over its area, there would be 119 persons on every square mile, but not only do the Provinces vary from 532 in the Western to 19 in the North-Central Province, divisions of the same Province present even larger differences. Thus, in the Northern Province the Jaffna District has a density of 341 to the square mile, but the Vavuniya and Mullaittívu Districts have but 8. In the Southern Province Mátara District has a density of 369, and Hambantóta only 88. In the North-Western Province the Chilaw District has nearly double the population to the acre that Kurunégala possesses, which again has more than four times the number of Puttalam. In the Western Province the Colombo District (excluding the metropolis) has twice the numbers to the mile which Kalutara has, and in the Central Province Kandy has 295 to Mátalé's 83.

Variation in the density of Districts of the same Province.

| | Villages per square mile. | Persons per Village. | Houses per square mile. | Persons per House. | Persons per Family. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Western Province.* | | | | | |
| Colombo Municipality ... | — ... | — ... | 2,575 ... | 5·2 ... | 5·1 |
| Colombo District ... | 1·3 ... | 430 ... | 102 ... | 5·7 ... | 5·5 |
| Negombo do. ... | 1·5 ... | 354 ... | 100 ... | 5·3 ... | 5·2 |
| Kalutara do. ... | ·76 ... | 382 ... | 54 ... | 5·4 ... | 5·4 |
| *Province of Sabaragamuwa.* | | | | | |
| Ratnapura District ... | ·38 ... | 221 ... | 16 ... | 5·5° ... | 4·9° |
| Kégalla do. ... | 1·4 ... | 169 ... | 38 ... | 5·3° ... | 5·2° |
| *North-Western Province.* | | | | | |
| Kurunégala District ... | 1·7 ... | 75 ... | 28 ... | 4·5 ... | 4·5 |
| Puttalam do. ... | ·32 ... | 94 ... | 7 ... | 4·1 ... | 4·1 |
| Chilaw do. ... | 1 ... | 229 ... | 47 ... | 5·1 ... | 5·1 |
| *Central Province.* | | | | | |
| Kandy District ... | ·97 ... | 305 ... | 39 ... | 4·9° ... | 4·8° |
| Mátalé do. ... | ·52 ... | 157 ... | 15 ... | 4·4° ... | 4·3° |
| Nuwara Eliya District ... | ·88 ... | 313 ... | 26 ... | 4·1° ... | 4·1° |
| *Northern Province.* | | | | | |
| Jaffna District ... | ·29 ... | 1,173 ... | 59·7 ... | 5·7 ... | 4·7 |
| Mannár do. ... | ·37 ... | 120 ... | 9·5 ... | 4·7 ... | 4·3 |
| Mullaittívu do. ... | ·08 ... | 98 ... | 1·8 ... | 4·3 ... | 4·3 |
| Vavuniya do. ... | ·24 ... | 32 ... | 1·9 ... | 4 ... | 4 |
| *Eastern Province.* | | | | | |
| Batticaloa District ... | ·1 ... | 410 ... | 8 ... | 5·3 ... | 5·3 |
| Trincomalee do. ... | ·09 ... | 224 ... | 3·9 ... | 5·6 ... | 4·6 |
| *Southern Province.* | | | | | |
| Galle District ... | 1·2 ... | 286 ... | 67·5 ... | 5 ... | 4·8 |
| Mátara do. ... | ·8 ... | 461 ... | 70·6 ... | 5·2 ... | 5·2 |
| Hambantota District ... | ·39 ... | 223 ... | 17·6 ... | 5 ... | 4·9 |

* The Estates population is excluded from the calculations.

8. But these variations, great though they are, are not restricted to the populations of the Districts which go to make up a Province. The divisions into which, for purposes of administration, these Districts are themselves divided frequently show as large differences existing in smaller areas.

Similar variations in the divisions of Districts.

9. In the Jaffna District of the Northern Province the Jaffna division gives a population to the square mile of 2,334 persons, which, if the large vacant areas made up of the fort, esplanade, and park were excluded, would be greatly increased, but in the Karachi division of the same District the population is so low as 13 to the mile. Two divisions of Valikámam have over 1,100 each, but Vadamarachi has only 118. These differences are found in an area of 819 square miles.

Variations of density in the Jaffna District.

In the Colombo District.

In the Colombo District the density varies from 1,097 in the Salpiti kóralé to 313 in the Héwágam kóralé; while in the Kalutara District, the Totamune, which is a narrow strip bordering the sea, has 1,580 to the 340 of the Rayigam and the 91 of the Pasdun kóralés which bound it on the east.

**In the Kandy District.** In the Kandy District, Hárispattu, a non-urban division, has 581 persons to the mile, while neighbouring districts fall to 80 and 44.

**In the Galle District.** In the Galle District of the Southern Province the 657 of the Wellaboda pattu falls to 200 in the adjoining Gangaboda pattu, both being non-urban districts. In Mátara there are but 86 to the square mile in the hilly district of the Morawak kóralé, while in the flat and rich Wellaboda pattu the rate is 739.

Examination of the accompanying tables will show the existence elsewhere of variations equally striking :—

[Exclusive of Estates.]

| | Houses per square mile. | Population per square mile. |
|---|---|---|
| **Western Province.** | | |
| *Colombo District.* | | |
| Alutkúru Kóralé South | 147 | 812 |
| Héwágam Kóralé | 57 | 313 |
| Salpiṭi Kóralé | 189 | 1,097 |
| Siyaṇé Kóralé | 93 | 520 |
| *Negombo District.* | | |
| Alutkúru Kóralé North | 101 | 530 |
| Hápiṭigam Kóralé | 63 | 334 |
| *Kalutara District.* | | |
| Toṭamune | 299 | 1,580 |
| Pasdun Kóralé | 17 | 91 |
| Rayigam Kóralé | 65 | 340 |
| **Province of Sabaragamuwa.** | | |
| *Ratnapura District.* | | |
| Atakalaṇ Kóralé | 19 | 94 |
| Kadawatu Kóralé | 13 | 68 |
| Kolonná Kóralé | 11 | 57 |
| Kukulu Kóralé | 5 | 28 |
| Kuruwiṭi Kóralé | 21 | 110 |
| Meda Kóralé | 15 | 76 |
| Nawadun Kóralé | 23 | 115 |
| *Kégallá District.* | | |
| Beligal Kóralé | 38 | 211 |
| Galboḍa Kóralé | 71 | 352 |
| Paraṇakúru Kóralé | 83 | 439 |
| Kinigoḍa Kóralé | 70 | 369 |
| Three Kóralés | 21 | 115 |
| Lower Bulatgama | 15 | 77 |
| **North-Western Province.** | | |
| *Kurunégala District.* | | |
| Dambadeniya Hatpattu | 46 | 235 |
| Dewamédi Hatpattu | 42 | 173 |
| Hiriyala Hatpattu | 19 | 76 |
| Katugampola Hatpattu | 29 | 132 |
| Wanni Hatpattu | 13 | 65 |
| Wéudawili Hatpattu | 51 | 218 |
| *Puttaḷam District.* | | |
| Demala Hatpattu | 4 | 16 |
| Kalpiṭiya Division | 6 | 22 |
| Puttalam Division | 14 | 56 |
| *Chilaw District.* | | |
| Piṭigal Kóralé North | 17 | 74 |
| Piṭigal Kóralé South | 73 | 371 |
| **Central Province.** | | |
| *Kandy District.* | | |
| Harispattu | 129 | 581 |
| Pata Dumbara | 65 | 309 |
| Pata Héwáheṭa | 52 | 243 |
| Tumpane | 52 | 246 |
| Uda Bulatgama | 9 | 44 |
| Uḍa Dumbara | 15 | 80 |
| Udunuwara | 67 | 366 |
| Udapaláta | 37 | 186 |
| Yaṭinuwara | 90 | 437 |

| | Houses per square mile. | Population per square mile. |
|---|---|---|
| *Mátalé District.* | | |
| Mátalé East | 9 | 37 |
| Do. North | 10 | 43 |
| Do. South | 34 | 161 |
| *Nuwara Eliya District.* | | |
| Kotmalé | 22 | 91 |
| Uda Hewáheṭa | 34 | 137 |
| Walapané | 21 | 86 |
| **Province of Uva.** | | |
| Bintenna | 4 | 25 |
| Buttala | 5 | 27 |
| Wellawáya | 1·7 | 8·5 |
| Uḍakinda | 24 | 163 |
| Wellassa | 5 | 33 |
| Viyaluwa | 13 | 82 |
| Yaṭakinda | 18 | 113 |
| **North-Central Province.** | | |
| Nuwaragampaláta | 5 | 21 |
| Hurulupaláta | 5 | 21 |
| Kelegampaláta | 13 | 52 |
| Tamankaḍuwa Division | 1 | 5 |
| **Northern Province.** | | |
| *Jaffna District.* | | |
| Jaffna Division | 370 | 2,334 |
| Valikámam East | 91 | 526 |
| Do. North | 176 | 1,100 |
| Do. West | 208 | 1,108 |
| Vadamarachi East | 24 | 118 |
| Do. West | 128 | 834 |
| Tenmaradchi | 92 | 473 |
| Pachilapalai | 12 | 61 |
| Karachi | 3 | 13 |
| Punakari | 4 | 21 |
| The Islands | 82 | 405 |
| *Mannár District.* | | |
| Mannár Island | 47 | 220 |
| Mántai | 5 | 22 |
| Nánaḍḍan | 7 | 34 |
| *Mullaittivu District.* | | |
| Karikadumulai | 3 | 14 |
| Mulliyavalai | 3 | 12 |
| Tunukkai | ·35 | 1·5 |
| *Vavuniya District.* | | |
| Kilakkumulai | 3·5 | 14 |
| Chinnacheddikulam | 2 | 10 |
| Melpattu | 2 | 7·5 |
| Panankámam | ·5 | 2 |
| **Eastern Province.** | | |
| *Batticaloa District.* | | |
| Manmunai | 26 | 133 |
| Bintenna | 1 | 5 |
| Chammanturai and Nadukadu | 3·5 | 23 |
| Eravur, Rukam, Koralai | 6 | 30 |
| Eruvil, Porativu, Karaivaku | 23 | 118 |
| Nintavur and Akarai | 23 | 128 |
| Pánawa | 1 | 6 |

| | Houses per square mile. | Population per square mile. |
|---|---|---|
| *Trincomalee District.* | | |
| Kaddukulam ... ... | 2 | 8 |
| Tampalakámam ... | 6 | 36 |
| Koddiyar ... ... | 4 | 24 |
| SOUTHERN PROVINCE. | | |
| *Galle District.* | | |
| Four Gravets and Akmimana ... ... | 146 | 744 |
| Gangaboda ... ... | 40 | 200 |
| Wellaboda ... ... | 135 | 657 |
| Talpé ... ... | 97 | 467 |
| Bentota-Walalláwiti ... | 50 | 253 |
| Hinidum ... ... | 7 | 34 |
| *Mátara District.* | | |
| Four Gravets of Mátara ... | 348 | 1,903 |
| Wellaboda Pattu ... | 138 | 739 |
| Weligam Kóralé ... | 80 | 418 |
| Morawak Kóralé ... | 18 | 86 |
| Kandaboda Pattu ... | 65 | 319 |
| Gangaboda Pattu ... | 77 | 393 |
| *Hambantota District.* | | |
| Mágam ... ... | 2 | 13 |
| Giruwa East ... ... | 17 | 89 |
| Do. West ... ... | 57 | 284 |

Density in the Municipality of Colombo.

10. In the chief town of the Island there is an average density of 4 houses and 21 persons to the acre, but there are portions of the city which show a considerably higher rate. The Pettah Ward, with 12 houses to the acre, has more than 7 persons to each house; while St. Sebastian, St. Paul's, and New Bazaar, with 13, 24, and 11 houses, have populations of 68, 114, and 50 to the acre. These divisions are for the most part inhabited now by workmen and day labourers, whose avocations in connection with the Harbour and the Shipping require attendance early in the morning and to late hours at night. The Fort Ward covers a small area, and few of the houses, which are principally offices and places of business, are inhabited at night. The numbers are made up of the residents in the hotels and of the workmen employed in the Harbour. The Slave Island Ward contains a large population, and so much of the area is empty that the actual density is considerably higher than is shown by the figures. The Kollupitiya and Maradána Wards cover a considerable area, where are found the dwellings, generally at some distance from each other, of the wealthier classes. These wards are not thickly populated, but a large population which was found in 1881 and earlier years in the old-fashioned houses in the Pettah has sought healthier abodes in Maradána and Kollupitiya. The Kotahéna Ward is in parts thickly populated, principally by fishermen, but there are large open spaces.

Density in other urban districts

11. Of the "outstation" towns, Mátalé and Puttalam, both having a very small area, have a high density of population, while the lowest is reached by Nuwara Eliya, which covers a considerable extent, but is very thinly populated, although when the Census was taken it held a not inconsiderable proportion of the European women and children of the low-country. The following figures give the area, number of houses, and population of the towns under the government of Municipalities and Local Boards, with the exception of Trincomalee :—

| | | Area in Acre. | Houses per Acre | Persons per Acre. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Colombo Municipality ... | ... | 6047 | 4 | 21 |
| Wards of the Colombo Municipality. Fort ... | ... | 220 | ·4 | 7 |
| Pettah ... | ... | 92 | 12·4 | 86 |
| St. Sebastian ... | ... | 116 | 13·5 | 68 |
| St. Paul's ... | ... | 143 | 23·9 | 114 |
| Kotahéna ... | ... | 1649 | 3·1 | 17 |
| New Bazaar ... | ... | 289 | 10·7 | 50 |
| Maradána ... | ... | 1297 | 3·5 | 18 |
| Slave Island ... | ... | 313 | 9·2 | 43 |
| Kollupitiya ... | ... | 1928 | 1·2 | 7 |
| Negombo Local Board ... | ... | 4640 | ·7 | 4 |
| Kalutara „ ... | ... | 1067 | 1·7 | 10 |
| Ratnapura „ ... | ... | 1326 | ·4 | 3 |
| Kurunégala „ ... | ... | 960 | 1 | 5 |
| Puttalam „ ... | ... | 320 | 3·4 | 15 |
| Chilaw „ ... | ... | 480 | 1·4 | 8 |
| Kandy Municipality ... | ... | 4400 | ·8 | 5 |
| Mátalé Local Board ... | ... | 160 | 5·8 | 26 |
| Nuwara Eliya „ ... | ... | 3120 | ·16 | 1 |
| Badulla „ ... | ... | 1120 | ·7 | 4 |
| Batticaloa „ ... | ... | 800 | 1·7 | 9 |
| Galle Municipality ... | ... | 3840 | 1·5 | 9 |
| Mátara Local Board ... | ... | 960 | 1·6 | 9 |

Villages: their numbers and population

12. I have already observed upon the increase in the number of villages. An analysis of the accompanying statement shows that of the total number of villages in the Island 30 per cent. had a population under 50 persons and 84 per cent. less than 300 inhabitants. In only 7 per cent. did the population exceed 500 persons. Of the total number of villages having over 1,000 inhabitants, Jaffna had 100, Colombo 43, Mátara 41, Kalutara 29, and Batticaloa 26 each. Of villages of over 3,000 inhabitants, Jaffna had 21, Batticaloa 7, Mátara 3, and Colombo 1. The Kurunégala District has the largest number of small villages, nearly one-half of the total number having a population of under 50 persons.

Statement of the Number of Villages in each District.

| CEYLON. | Total Number of Villages. | | Under 50. | Under 100. | Under 200. | Under 300. | Under 400. | Under 500. | Under 600. | Under 700. | Under 800. | Under 900. | Under 1,000. | Over 1,000 and under 1,500. | Over 1,500 and under 2,000. | Over 2,000 and under 2,500. | Over 2,500 and under 3,000. | Over 3,000. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Name of District. | 1881 | 1891 | 1891 | 1891 | 1891 | 1891 | 1891 | 1891 | 1891 | 1891 | 1891 | 1891 | 1891 | 1891 | 1891 | 1891 | 1891 | 1891 |
| Colombo ... | 748 | 742 | 15 | 57 | 147 | 117 | 106 | 72 | 72 | 46 | 29 | 26 | 12 | 31 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 1 |
| Negombo ... | 388 | 375 | 29 | 61 | 88 | 65 | 46 | 23 | 14 | 13 | 8 | 6 | 7 | 13 | 1 | — | — | 1 |
| Kalutara ... | 470 | 480 | 29 | 50 | 120 | 101 | 45 | 42 | 23 | 16 | 5 | 13 | 7 | 17 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 1 |
| Ratnapura ... | 448 | 489 | 117 | 98 | 127 | 56 | 33 | 15 | 12 | 11 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 7 | 1 | 1 | — | 1 |
| Kégalla ... | 892 | 890 | 169 | 229 | 293 | 122 | 35 | 24 | 12 | — | 3 | 1 | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | — |
| Kurunégala ... | 3151 | 3051 | 1465 | 870 | 549 | 122 | 28 | 9 | 5 | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| Puttalam ... | 275 | 287 | 148 | 81 | 38 | 11 | 5 | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 1 |
| Chilaw ... | 248 | 276 | 84 | 47 | 51 | 32 | 21 | 15 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 3 | 3 | — | — | 1 |
| Kandy ... | 724 | 945 | 140 | 212 | 284 | 175 | 77 | 28 | 10 | 8 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 3 | — | — | 2 | 1 |
| Mátalé ... | 494 | 488 | 149 | 125 | 127 | 56 | 17 | 9 | 3 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| Nuwara Eliya ... | 263 | 347 | 101 | 101 | 91 | 36 | 9 | 5 | -- | 1 | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | 1 | — |
| Badulla ... | 885 | 875 | 241 | 213 | 218 | 95 | 55 | 31 | 10 | 7 | 2 | 1 | — | 1 | —, | — | — | 1 |
| Nuwarakaláwiya ... | 1064 | 1094 | 534 | 336 | 195 | 24 | 3 | — | 1 | — | -- | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — |
| Jaffna ... | 240 | 238 | 21 | 10 | 14 | 17 | 14 | 14 | 13 | 14 | 12 | 4 | 5 | 35 | 18 | 15 | 11 | 21 |
| Mannár ... | 199 | 204 | 110 | 52 | 24 | 8 | 3 | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | — | 3 | 1 | — | — | 1 |
| Mullaittívu ... | 74 | 75 | 49 | 9 | 10 | 1 | 1 | 1 | — | 1 | 1 | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — |
| Vavuniya ... | 253 | 253 | 212 | 34 | 6 | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | -- | — | — | — |
| Batticaloa ... | 298 | 299 | 80 | 61 | 59 | 19 | 14 | 13 | 6 | 10 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 12 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 7 |
| Trincomalee ... | 86 | 115 | 58 | 23 | 12 | 10 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 2 | — | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | 1 |
| Galle ... | 497 | 779 | 141 | 119 | 192 | 95 | 88 | 56 | 35 | 15 | 13 | 6 | 5 | 10 | 3 | — | — | 1 |
| Mátara ... | 436 | 385 | 28 | 51 | 80 | 59 | 26 | 27 | 20 | 16 | 20 | 6 | 11 | 24 | 7 | 5 | 2 | 3 |
| Hambantota ... | 355 | 400 | 70 | 78 | 82 | 55 | 45 | 44 | 16 | 3 | — | 2 | — | 3 | 1 | — | 1 | — |
| | 12438 | 13087* | 3990 | 2917 | 2807 | 1276 | 675 | 433 | 259 | 166 | 109 | 81 | 59 | 166 | 50 | 30 | 25 | 44 |

* Excluding Colombo City.

Density per house.

13. The population of Ceylon distributed amongst the occupied houses would give 56 persons to every ten houses, or 5·6 persons to each house. But this rate of distribution is not maintained uniformly throughout the Island.

## CHAPTER III.

### THE PROGRESS OF THE POPULATION.

Population of Ceylon—Observations on the Census of 1871—The Census of 1881—Difficulties of 1871 absent in 1881—Cause of increase in 1881—The increase in each race in 1871 and 1881 compared—Increase in the Tamil and Moor population—Effect of immigration—Arrivals and departures of immigrants—Europeans—Burghers and Eurasians—Sinhalese — Malays — Veddahs — "Others" — Western Province — Municipality of Colombo—Colombo District—Negombo District—Kalutara District—Province of Sabaragamuwa—Ratnapura District—Kégalla District—North-Western Province—Kurunégala District—Puttalam District—Chilaw District—Central Province—Effects of immigration—Small increase in the Sinhalese—Inference from the fall in the ratio of males to females—Kandy District—Mátalé District—Nuwara Eliya District—Province of Uva [Badulla of 1881]—North-Central Province—Northern Province—Jaffna District—Mannár District—Mullaittívu District—Vavuniya District—Eastern Province—Batticaloa District—Trincomalee District—Southern Province—Galle District—Mátara District—Hambantota District—Necessity of alteration in method of tabulation of vital statistics.

Population of Ceylon.

THE population of Ceylon, which on the 17th February, 1881, numbered 2,759,738 persons, consisted on the 26th February, 1891, of 3,007,789 persons, showing an increase of 248,051 persons, and of 9 per cent. in the decade. The rate of increase in the previous decade, 14·9 per cent., was so considerably higher that the results of the Census of 1891 have caused some disappointment.

Observations on the Census of 1871.

2. Before coming to an analysis of the figures it is necessary that I should point out that the Census of 1871 was the first numbering of the people in a period of forty years. The operation was a novel one, and was accompanied by all the difficulties which attend such operations in the East. The State is never credited with benevolent or even harmless intentions. In every new inquiry is found a design to impose a tax or to exact a service. Such suspicions were prevalent in 1871 in Ceylon, and to them were added sinister rumours, which tended to unsettle the people and to arouse a spirit of objection. Added to this want of co-operation on the part of those to be numbered was the general ignorance of methods. No officer of the highest or the lowest rank had had any previous practical experience of a Census-taking, and things could not work as smoothly as if the machinery had been already tested and found to be well fitted.

The Census of 1881.

3. In 1881, on the other hand, a large number of the Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents, upon whom devolves in every Census-taking the making, in harmony with one general design, of the arrangements for the actual enumeration, had had the experience of 1871, and a considerable proportion of the persons employed as enumerators had been so employed before. There was, therefore, knowledge in place of the ignorance of 1871. There was also an absence of those fears and suspicions which were rife ten years previously. In 1881 the people viewed the undertaking with indifference. They looked upon it as one of the eccentricities of a Western form of Government, and were rather anxious than otherwise that their schedules should be accurately filled up, fearing that, if they were inaccurate, they might in some litigation in the future speak against them.

Difficulties of 1871 absent in 1881.

4. The conditions, therefore, under which the Census of 1871 was taken were calculated to diminish the chances of its accuracy, while in 1881 none of these conditions was present, and it may therefore be fairly argued that the high rate of increase in 1881 is in some degree accounted for by the reasonable assumption that the figures of 1871 do not correctly represent the population at that time.

Cause of increase in 1881.

5. However this may be, an examination of the figures shows that there was another factor which contributed largely to the increase in 1881 which has been absent in 1891.

The increase in each race in 1871 and 1881 compared.

6. The following statement shows what was the increase in numbers of the races of the population in 1881 as compared with 1871, and in 1891 as compared with 1881 :—

| | Males. | Females. | Persons. | Percentage of Increase. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **1871 and 1881.** | | | | |
| Total Population ... | 189,424 | 169,934 | 359,358 | 14·9 |
| Europeans ... | 993 | 584 | 1,577 | 48 5 |
| Burghers ... | 1,191 | 1,360 | 2,551 | 16·6 |
| Sinhalese ... | 94,029 | 88,126 | 182,155 | 10·9 |
| Tamils ... | 79,832 | 69,602 | 149,434 | 27·8 |
| Moors ... | 11,926 | 8,887 | 20,813 | 12·7 |
| Others and Malays ... | 1,344 | 1,286 | 2,630 | 19·1 |
| Veddahs ... | 109 | 89 | 198 | 9·8 |
| **1881 and 1891.** | | | | |
| Total Population ... | 123,823 | 124,228 | 248,051 | 9 |
| Europeans ... | — 200 | 42 | — 158 | — 3·2 |
| Burghers ... | 1,607 | 1,738 | 3,345 | 18·7 |
| Sinhalese ... | 100,709 | 93,835 | 194,544 | 10·5 |
| Tamils ... | 15,625 | 20,980 | 36,605 | 5·3 |
| Moors ... | 5,366 | 7,258 | 12,624 | 6·8 |
| Malays ... | 640 | 598 | 1,238 | 13·9 |
| Veddahs ... | — 525 | — 474 | — 999 | — 44·8 |
| Others ... | 601 | 251 | 852 | 11·4 |

[The minus sign signifies decrease.]

Increase in Tamil and Moor population

7. It will be at once observed that while the Tamil population increased by 149,434 persons and nearly 28 per cent. between 1871 and 1881, the rate of increase between 1881 and 1891 was little over 5 per cent. In the same way, the Moorman population, which increased by 20,813 persons and nearly 13 per cent. in the first decade, added something less than 7 per cent. and 12,624 persons to its numbers in the second.

Effect of immigration

Arrivals and departures of immigrants

8. These two nationalities are those to which immigration contributes most largely; and the immigration returns show that it is to that source that the abnormal increase of population between 1871 and 1881 is to be attributed. In the decade from 1871 to 1880 there were 1,022,338 arrivals and 821,332 departures of Indian immigrants, adding to the population 201,006 persons. In the ten years from 1881 to 1890 the arrivals had fallen to 574,952 and the departures to 520,409, and the addition to the population was 54,543, or little more than one-fourth of the number in the previous decade. Had the flow of immigrants continued at the same rate in the second as in the first decade, the ratio of increase in the population would have been fully maintained, and it is to the decrease in the number of immigrants that the loss is due.

The Europeans.

9. The European population, which increased by 1,577 persons between 1871 and 1881, decreased by 158 between 1881 and 1891, the decrease being entirely in the male population, there having been an increase of 42 in the number of women. The speculations which distinguished the middle of the first of the two decades led to an influx of Europeans whom the destruction of coffee drove away. The increase in the number of European women bears testimony to greater facilities for travel and to the presence, at least in a moderate degree, of those luxuries which are necessities of modern female life.

The Burgher and Eurasians

10. In the Burgher population are included the descendants of the Portuguese and Dutch colonists, as well as Eurasians and "half-castes." The numbers of this class are found to have increased in both decades, the increase in the second decade being more considerable than in the first. Some, perhaps, have been excluded from it who might properly have been included, for it was not uncommon to find different members of the same family claiming different nationalities. Thus, one brother wrote himself and his family "Burgher," another "Eurasian," and a third described himself as of the European nationality of the ancestor from whom the family claim descent. The growth in the number of half-caste children is a feature which promises to present difficulties in the near future.

The Sinhalese

11. The Sinhalese population has increased by 10·5 as compared with 10·9 in the previous decade. The increase is not uniformly maintained throughout the Island, and I shall have hereafter to devote some space to an examination of the figures of each District. The rate of increase has been reduced by 4 per mille, but it is possible that this is attributable in some degree at least to the possibly defective enumeration in 1871, to which I have already adverted.

The Malays

12. The Malay population, which is confined to certain areas, shows a large increase, but as the Malays and "Others" were combined in 1871 the difference in the rates of increase in the two decades cannot be ascertained.

The Veddahs

13 The Veddahs appear to have decreased, but on inquiry I have ascertained that these people have generally put themselves down as Tamil or Sinhalese, according to the language spoken by them. In the Trincomalee District the Assistant Government Agent did not take them separately, as he looks upon the term "Veddah" as indicating a caste. There seems reason to believe that there are very few left of the true Veddahs, the real wild men of the woods. They have gradually settled down to agricultural habits and intermarried with the villagers. Any attempt to census the true Veddahs would probably be as ineffectual as an endeavour to number the monkeys or the elephants.

"Others"

14. Amongst the "Others" are reckoned those who are not included in the previous classes. Their numbers have increased, but they do not form an important item of the population.

The Western Province.

15. The population of the Western Province has increased by 91,033 persons, or by 13·5 per cent., in the last ten years, while in the previous ten years the rate of increase was 16·6 per cent. The Districts which contribute to this total are the Municipality of Colombo, and the Colombo, Negombo, and Kalutara Districts.

The Municipality of Colombo

16. The Municipality of Colombo contains nearly one-sixth of the people of the Western Province. In 1881 in every hundred there were 23 Tamils, but in 1891 the proportion is found to have fallen to 19. In the period between 1871 and 1881 immigration added 5,293 to the residents of Colombo, but in the subsequent ten years the numbers were reduced by 1,232 persons. The reduction in the number of females was nearly 7 per cent. and of males nearly 4 per cent. This decrease is, I think, accounted for by the closing of the coffee stores, which gave occupation to many hundreds of women and girls in the treatment which coffee underwent prior to shipment to Europe Tea requires no such treatment, and finding their occupation gone the Tamil women have returned to India. There was also between 1871 and 1881 a considerable increase in the number of Europeans and Moormen, but this increase has not been maintained. The addition to the numbers of these classes in the last decade has been small. The increase in the Sinhalese population has been very large. It has grown from 46,869 persons in 1881 to 59,962 persons in 1891, an increase of 13,093 persons, and of nearly 28 per cent., as compared with 21 per

cent. in 1881; while, however, in 1881 the number of males and females was almost equal, in 1891 there are in every thousand Siṉhalese people 520 men to 480 women, showing that the increase in the Siṉhalese population is principally attributable to immigration from other Districts. This population has been attracted by the fact that Colombo is now the port of call for steamers, and it is principally to the Galle District that Colombo owes its immigrant Siṉhalese. The increase in the Burghers numbers 22 per cent., and is large, but rather more than 2 per cent. less than in the previous ten years. It is, however, undoubted that a considerable number of this class have moved to the villages immediately outside the Municipality, and the small difference may be attributed to this cause.

The Colombo District.

17. In the Colombo District the increase is 14·4 as compared with 16·8, but here again it is found that while between 1871 and 1881 there had been an addition of 3,746 Tamils, in 1891 the increase was only 234. The Siṉhalese population, which increased by 35,485 persons and 15 per cent. in the first decade, increased by 38,356 persons and 14 per cent. in the second. It is difficult to account for this difference except upon the assumption of the inaccuracy of the Census of 1871. The abnormal rate of increase in the Héwágam kóralé in 1881 (26·38 per cent.) appears to justify this assumption. The Burgher population is found to have increased by 411, but I have already assigned a cause for this in the removal to the villages immediately adjoining the Municipality of families who used to live in the town.

The Negombo District.

18. In the Negombo District there has been an addition of 15,966 persons to the population as compared with 18,292 in 1881, but the increase in the earlier period was greatly attributable to the influx of 4,414 Tamils. The Siṉhalese population has increased by nearly 14 per cent., the rate for the previous decade being 1 per cent. higher. The Hápitigam kóralé, of which the population increased by 21·14 per cent. between 1871 and 1881, has increased by 21·6 per cent. This abnormal rate of increase is probably attributable to immigration from the more congested district of Alutkúru kóralé immediately adjoining it. The Europeans have decreased by 1 and the Burghers by 12.

The Kalutara District.

19. In the Kalutara District the increase is 11·3 as compared with 13·22, but the Tamil population has increased from 1,938 persons in 1881 to 4,453 persons in 1891. This is directly attributable to the cultivation of tea. The rate of increase in the Kalutara Local Board and Totamune is low, but is a consequence of emigration. The Moorman population has increased by only 26 persons, or ·2 per cent., as compared with 10·6 per cent. in 1881, resulting from the emigration of adult males.

The Province of Sabaragamuwa.

20. The Province of Sabaragamuwa, made up of the Ratnapura and Kégalla Districts, forming part in 1881 of the Western Province, has increased its population by 32,797 persons, or 14·5 per cent., as compared with 14·3 in the previous decade.

The Ratnapura District.

21. In the Ratnapura District, where the increase is only 2 per cent., the Tamil population, which in 1881 numbered 9,018 persons (double the number in 1871), fell to 6,949, a loss of 2,069 persons, or nearly 23 per cent., attributable to the abandonment of coffee estates and the opening of few tea estates in place of them. The Siṉhalese population, which had in 1881 increased by 10 per cent., has in the last decade increased only by 4·3 per cent. This can only be attributed to the high rate of infantile mortality which has prevailed so long in this District. The Registrar-General's returns for the last four years, which is the period for which the figures are distributed according to nationalities, show that to every one hundred births in the Siṉhalese population there were in 1887 91 deaths, in 1888 102 deaths, in 1889 100 deaths, and in 1890 89 deaths. In four years to 400 births there were 382 deaths! I made inquiry as to the foods given to infants whose mothers were unable to suckle them. The list was extraordinary, embracing articles which to ordinary infantile stomachs would be rather poison than food. One chief attributes nine-tenths of the deaths to want of proper nutriment, while another says that "the majority of children perish under such circumstances." It is time that means were found of arresting the infantile mortality in this District.

The Kégalla District.

22. In the Kégalla District the population has increased by 30,672 persons, or 25·6 per cent., as compared with 13·9 per cent. in the previous decade. In 1871 there were 5,352 Tamils. In 1881 there were 5,407. In 1891 there were 21,208, or *nearly one-seventh of the entire population.* The increase in this class is entirely due to tea cultivation, and is almost confined to the Three Kóralés and Lower Bulatgama, extending but little to the Four Kóralés. The Siṉhalese population shows an increase of 12 per cent. as compared with 15 per cent. in the previous decade. In the Galboḍa kóralé there is a decrease which I am unable to account for, except on the supposition that the people have emigrated to Three Kóralés in search of work on the tea estates. The increase in the Siṉhalese population of the Four Kóralés in the decade is 7·4 per cent., and of the Three Kóralés and Lower Bulatgama (the tea district) 26·2 per cent., showing emigration from the Four Kóralés. There is a large increase in the numbers of Europeans and Burghers—most of whom are engaged in tea cultivation. The revolutions effected during the last twenty years, first by the success of coffee and then by its annihilation, and again by the fortunate introduction of tea, can only be appreciated by one who has been intimately acquainted with the District for nearly a quarter of a century.

The North-Western Province

23. In the North-Western Province (which now consists of the three Districts of Kurunégala, Puttalam, and Chilaw) there has been an addition of 26,743 persons to the population. The increase is 9·1 per cent. as compared with 6·25 in the previous period.

The Kurunégala District

24. In the Kurunégala District the increase is 7 per cent., or more than double the rate (3·47) between 1871 and 1881. This is shown to have been entirely in the Sinhalese population, which has increased by 15,381 persons and 7·7 per cent., contrasting favourably with the increase of 2·9 in the earlier decade. The Tamil population, which is here an immigrant population, has decreased by nearly 16 per cent. In the Katugampola and Dambadeniya hatpattus the increase is in an appreciable degree attributable to the immigration of cocoanut planters from the Negombo and Chilaw Districts. In the Wanni hatpattu, where the decrease of 6·55 has been converted into an increase of 6·9, there has been much attention given to the system of irrigation by village tanks. The consequence has been a better food supply, which has arrested the spread of paraṇgi and made the people better able to bear the insidious attacks of fever. In the Hiriyala, Wéudawili, and Dewamedi hatpattus the small increase is due to mortality caused by fever, and, I fear, to an insufficient food supply.

The Puttalam District

25. In the Puttalam District the increase is ·9 per cent. The Demala hatpattu, which is a Sinhalese division adjoining the Wanni hatpattu of Kurunégala, shows a small increase, but considerably more than in the previous decade. The decrease in the Kalpitiya division is remarkable, and I can only account for it on the assumption that there has been emigration to the Puttalam division, if the enumeration is not incorrect. The division is one in which the majority of the population consists of Moormen, possessed of property, and remarkably prosperous, and the decrease is not to be attributed to disease or want of food. In the Puttalam division the increase is abnormal, and in the absence of better information I can only suppose that the Kalpitiya people have emigrated to this, which is the next division, possessing soil favourable for cocoanut cultivation.

The Chilaw District.

26. The Chilaw District, of which the southern kóralé showed in 1881 an increase of 23 per cent. and the northern an increase of 10 per cent., has increased in population in the decade by 22·2 per cent. The southern kóralé has continued to grow, while the northern has doubled its rate of progress. The prosperity of these two kóralés—of which the southern is one of the richest in the Island—is attributable to the introduction of capital from the Colombo and Negombo Districts, and the successful cultivation of cocoanuts. The houses are well built and commodious, and numerous large schools attest the educational influence of the Roman Catholic Church.

The Central Province.

27. The population of the Central Province numbered 474,487 persons in 1891 against 473,669 in 1881, there being an increase of 818 persons. In the previous decade the population increased by 108,110 persons. In my report on the Census of 1881 I attributed this abnormal increase, exceeding 29 per cent., to immigration and to defective enumeration in 1871. Of the 108,110 persons added to the population in 1881, 72,827 were Tamils and 5,253 Moormen. The Sinhalese increased by 12·8 per cent., and numbered 243,363 persons against 215,588 at the Census of 1871. In 1891 the Tamils have decreased by 1,924 persons and the Moormen by 1,927 persons, while the Sinhalese have increased by 5,018 persons, of whom 4,469 are women and 549 men. The Europeans and "Others" have also fallen in numbers.

Effects of immigration

28. The increase in the Tamil and Moorman population between 1871 and 1881 is directly attributable to immigration. The speculation in coffee, which reached its climax in the latter part of the decade ending in 1881, caused a rush of coolies to the Central Province and Uva for the cultivation of new land. When coffee failed in the sad years from 1881 to 1886 this stream flowed back, and every year saw the Tamil and Moorman population reduced till 1887, when the success of tea brought back the tide of immigration, and in every succeeding year the arrivals have largely exceeded the departures. The immigrant population is not yet so large as it was in 1881, but it is still enormously greater than in 1871. The Tamils numbered in 1871 117,489 persons, in 1881 190,316 persons, and in 1891 188,392 persons, the increase in 1891 compared with 1871 being 60 per cent. The Moormen have grown from 24,038 in 1871 to 27,364 in 1891, or nearly 14 per cent. There has been but a small decrease in the number of immigrant labourers because tea has taken the place of coffee on the estates.

Small increase in the Sinhalese.

29. The Sinhalese population, which in the years between 1871 and 1881 increased by nearly 13 per cent., in the succeeding decade shows an increase of little over 2 per cent. Defective enumeration in 1871, and a consequent unreal increase in 1881, will not account for this small growth, for which a cause is found in emigration and increased mortality.

Inference from the fall in the ratio of males to females.

30. It will be shown in a succeeding chapter that in the total Sinhalese population the number of females always exceeds the males at the age-periods between 10 and 20 and 20 and 30. In the Central Province (including Uva), on the contrary, in 1871 and 1881 the ratio of males to females at those ages is much higher, while at every age the males greatly exceed the females. In 1891, however, the number of males in the Central Province is found to have greatly fallen, while in the ages between 10 and 20 the females are in the ascendant, and between 20 and 30 the sexes are nearly equal.

The deduction is that in 1871 and 1881 there was an excessive male population which was absent in 1891.

The Kandy District.

31. In the Kandy District of the Central Province the population has been almost stationary, the increase being only 21 persons. The Siṉhalese increased by 13 per mille against 131 per mille in the previous decade. The increase in the Tamils is 2 per mille as compared with 452 per mille; and in the Moormen a decrease of 78 against an increase of 216. In Hárispattu, Tumpané, Uda Dumbara, Udunuwara, and Yatinuwara the Siṉhalese and Tamil population have decreased. In the other divisions there is an increase, the increase being greatest in Uda Bulatgama and Udapaláta, where tea has been cultivated to a large extent. In Uda Bulatgama the increase in the Siṉhalese is 33 and in the Tamils 38 per cent. In Udapaláta the Siṉhalese have increased by 15 per cent. The largest decrease is in Hárispattu, where it reaches nearly 9 per cent. of the Siṉhalese and more than 60 per cent. of the Tamils. The Siṉhalese of this division have emigrated in large numbers to the North-Western Province. It is noteworthy that in all the divisions in which there is a decrease of population the ratio of males to females in 1891 is much below the ratio in 1881.

The Mátalé District.

32. In the Mátalé District coffee has died out, and tea has not taken its place as in Kandy, so that the immigrant population has gone and has not been called back. The result is disastrous. The population of the District in 1891 is hardly larger than in 1871. The increase of 11,456 between 1871 and 1881 has been reduced by 10,141. In every nationality there is a decrease. The following table sums up the results :—

| | Increase in 1881. | | Decrease in 1891. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Europeans ... | ... 53 | Europeans ... | ... 41 |
| Burghers ... | ... 4 | Burghers ... | ... 6 |
| Siṉhalese ... | ... 5,082 | Siṉhalese ... | ... 111 |
| Tamils ... | ... 5,377 | Tamils ... | ... 9,081 |
| Moormen ... | ... 999 | Moormen ... | ... 758 |
| Malays and others | ... — 57 | Malays ... | ... 44 |
| Veḍḍahs ... | ... — 2 | Others ... | ... 99 |
| | | Veḍḍahs ... | ... 1 |

Mátalé has suffered not only in the entire destruction of its coffee, but in successive years of drought and failure of crops, and a cause for the decrease in population may be found as much in bad seasons as in emigration. In 1890 the Assistant Government Agent reports that the people of Matalé North and East were driven for food to "what they could find in the shape of roots and leaves in the forest." It is not wonderful that under such conditions there have, in the last three years, been 237 deaths to 300 births amongst the Siṉhalese.

The Nuwara Eliya District.

33. The Nuwara Eliya District alone of the Central Province continues to show a satisfactory increase in its population, of which more than 60 per cent. consists of Tamils. Coffee has not entirely disappeared, while tea flourishes, and the extension of the railway attracts labourers. In Uda Héwáheṭa and Walapané there is a decrease, which is probably accounted for by the absence of the people on the estates and railway. The District shows an increase of 11 per cent., numbering 10,938 persons, of whom 6,906 were Tamils, 2,989 Siṉhalese, and 547 Moormen. A very large proportion of the people are strangers—the men largely exceeding the women in numbers.

The Province of Uva [Badulla of 1881].

34. The population of the Province of Uva (which in 1881 formed the District of Badulla, included in the Central Province) is found to have decreased in numbers from 165,692 persons in 1881 to 159,201 persons in 1891, the decrease being 48 in the male and 27 in the female population in every thousand. There was a small increase in the number of Burghers, Siṉhalese, and Malays, but in all the other nationalities there was a decrease, and the number of Tamils was diminished by 6,769 persons. The increase in the Tamils in the previous decade was abnormal, being 132 per cent., and was attributable to immigration, which in the ten years between 1871 and 1881 added 24,791 Tamils and 1,450 Moors to the population. The increase in the decennium from 1871 to 1881 in the Siṉhalese population was 9·5 per cent., which was below the normal rate of the decade. In the Badulla town the Siṉhalese population shows an increase of 14 per cent., but the numbers are small, and the increase may be attributable to such temporary causes as a religious festival. In the Bintenna district there was an increment in the Siṉhalese population of 684 persons, of whom 432 were men and 252 women, making an addition of nearly 9 per cent. The Government Agent attributes this to the settlement of a large number of Kandyans, but there were only 264 Kandy-born persons in that division. In Buttala there is a decrease in the Siṉhalese population, and a small increase in the number of Tamils, who are labourers on certain irrigation works under construction. In Wellawáya the increase in the Siṉhalese population amounted to nearly 7 per cent., but there was an enormous decrease in the immigrant Tamils, whose numbers fell from 13,724 to 8,838. In Udukinda there was a small increase in the number of Siṉhalese and Moormen, and a considerable addition to the Tamils. Strangers were attracted to this division by the laying of the railway line to Haputalé, nearly the whole of the Tamil population and 17 per cent. of the Siṉhalese men and 4 per cent. of the Siṉhalese women being returned as born elsewhere. In Wellassa the number of Siṉhalese diminished, the greatest loss (about 5 per cent.) being in females. In Wiyaluwa the Siṉhalese population was almost stationary, and in Yatikinda there was a small increase in the number of women; but in both these divisions the Tamils show a large decrease. The Government Agent attributes the decrease in Uva mainly to a falling off in the estate population occasioned by large areas of

coffee passing out of cultivation, but he also states that the condition of the native settled population during the same period has been most unsatisfactory. In the Sinhalese population in 1890 there were 58 deaths to 100 births, but in the three preceding years the numbers were 74, 98, and 76, giving an average for the four years of 75 deaths to every 100 births, the average in Nuwara Eliya being 58 and in Kandy 65. It is, however, to be observed that while in 1871 and 1881 this Province showed at every age-period a much larger proportion of males than females, in 1891 in the age-periods between 10 and 30 the females exceeded the males, as they are proved to do in districts unaffected by immigration, leading to the inference that the decrease in the Sinhalese population is to be attributed in some degree at least to the absence of those influences which led to an abnormal addition to the adult male population in the previous decades.

**The North-Central Province.**

35. The North-Central Province gives an increase of 13·9 as compared with 3·7 in the previous decade. The Sinhalese population has augmented its numbers by 6,469 persons, or at the rate of 12·1 per cent., as against 1·5 per cent. in the first ten years. The Tamils have grown from 4,664 to 6,422, and the Moormen from 7,412 to 8,662 In three out of four divisions the increase varies from 14·5 to 18·4. In one division only, the Kelegam paláta, is the increase below the normal rate. It is unquestionable that this accretion to the numbers of the people is largely attributable to an influx of strangers, but the existence of those conditions, which are an attraction to colonists, testifies to an improvement in the position of the native population which must naturally tend to its growth. It is the presence of wholesome water sufficient for irrigation, and of land fertile and easy of cultivation, which draws men hither from other Districts ; and to these same causes the people of the Province owe that relief from chronic starvation, from which will in time come increased productiveness and immunity from the loathsome malady of which pitiful examples are still too frequent. Examination of the schedules proves that the Tamil strangers are not the class of immigrants attracted by a temporary demand for labour, departing when that demand is satisfied ; but are colonists, forming settlements where land and water are obtainable and engaging in cultivation. In 1881 irrigation works were in progress, giving employment to Tamil labourers, and temporarily increasing the numbers of this nationality in the Province, but there were in 1891 "no public works to swell the returns with non-resident or immigrant labour" (Administration Reports, 1890, Part I., p. H 6) and the figures may be accepted as "a genuine record of the actual population." The disappearance of the Veddahs as a separate class is due to their inclusion in the numbers of the Sinhalese or Tamil people, according as they speak Sinhalese or Tamil. They have settled in villages and intermarried with the Sinhalese and Tamils and abandoned their wild ways.

**The Northern Province.**

36. The population of the Northern Province, which in 1881 numbered 302,500 persons, of whom 151,565 were men and 150,935 women, increased by 16,796 persons in 1891, of whom 8,796 were males and 8,000 females, the increase being 5·8 in the male and 5·3 in the female population. In the previous decade the rate of increase was 7·4. The larger increase in 1881 may be attributable to omissions in the Census of 1871, of the accuracy of which the Government Agent expressed grave doubts.

**The Jaffna District.**

37. The Jaffna District, which contained in 1891 87·4 of the whole Provincial population, has increased by 5·1 per cent. as compared with 7·9 per cent. in the previous decade. The population is made up almost entirely of home-born Tamils. There is very little immigration, but the figures show that 10,782 men and 4,503 women born in the District were living elsewhere in 1891, and there are in addition considerable numbers of Jaffna Tamils resident in the Straits Settlements and in India who are not included in these figures. The low rate of increase is no doubt attributable partly to emigration, but the decade generally was unhealthy, and in 1889 the mortality was heavy. Cholera, fever, and dysentery prevailed to an alarming extent. The deaths registered out-numbered the births, and the mortality exceeded that of the previous year by nearly 50 per cent. In the Jaffna division, where the population is very dense, the rate of increase was 8·4, and in two of the divisions of Valikámam and The Islands the increment was considerable, but in Tenmaradchi there was a loss of 1,531 persons and in Karachi, with a population of 2,541, there was a decrease of nearly one-third.

**Mannár.**

38. In the Mannár District there was an increase of 14·8 per cent., the males having increased by 24·4 and the females by 3·9, pointing to immigration as the cause of the increment. Examination of the figures shows that there were 450 Sinhalese, 1,683 Tamils, and 1,008 Moors added to the population. The Sinhalese are all immigrants, while of the Tamils forming two-thirds of the entire population more than one-fifth were born elsewhere. The inference is that the growth of the population is attributable to artificial causes.

**Mullaittívu.**

39. In the Mullaittívu District the rate of decrease has increased from 1·5 to 3·9. Of the 296 persons whose absence made the decrease, 69 were Sinhalese, all of whom were strangers, and 245 Tamils. There is a considerable immigrant Tamil population coming from Jaffna, and the return of these may have caused the decrease, but for a considerable number of years the death-rate has been very high.

**Vavuniya.**

40. In the sister-District of Vavuniya there is a small increase, adding 228 to the population, of whom 222 were equally divided between the Tamils and Sinhalese. The death-rate of this District, too, is stated by the Registrar-General to exceed the birth-rate.

**The Eastern Province.**

41. In the Eastern Province the population has increased by 20,889 persons, or 16·4 per cent., in the female portion 16·5 and in the male 16·2 per cent. In the

previous decade the increase was 13·3, the male population having increased by 13·3 per cent. and the female by 13·2.

The Batticaloa District.

42. In the Batticaloa District more than half of the entire population is Tamil, of whom 96 in every hundred of the males and 98 of the females were born in the District. Of the Moormen, forming one-third of the entire population, 98 of the males and nearly all the females are home-born. Of the Siṉhalese, who contribute five in every hundred of the people, 20 per cent. of the males and 7 per cent. of the females were born elsewhere. The Siṉhalese population shows an increase of 28 per cent., the increase in the males being 33 to 21 amongst the females. The Tamils have increased by 14 per cent., the females showing the higher rate of increase. Amongst the Moors the males have increased by 18 per cent. and the females by 22·5 per cent. The increase in the females may be due to better enumeration. There is always difficulty in the enumeration of females, who are by custom secluded from public view, but the Government Agent in his report states that special attention was given to this matter. All the divisions of the Batticaloa District show an abnormal growth of population. In Chammanturai and Nadukádu the increase is nearly 42 per cent. In Erávúr, Rúkam, and Kóralai it is 33 per cent., and in Panawa nearly 24 per cent. The division showing the lowest rate of increase is that in which the town is included. In the Bintenna division the increase is 18 per cent., against a decrease of 10 per cent. in the previous decade. These figures can hardly be accounted for, except on the assumption of inaccurate enumeration in 1881, which I am inclined to deduce from the very large number of houses allotted to each enumerator in that year contrary to my instructions. Making, however, full allowance for much inaccuracy, the increase in the Batticaloa District is very large.

The Trincomalee District.

43. In the Trincomalee District the Tamils contribute two-thirds of the population and the Moormen a quarter, and the Siṉhalese four in every hundred. The rate of increase amongst the Moormen and Siṉhalese is lower than in 1881, but the Tamils show an increase of 19 as compared with 12, the ratio amongst the males being 23 and amongst the females 14. The town of Trincomalee gives an increase of 19 per cent., which is due to the presence of a larger military force necessitating a larger population to supply its wants. There is a considerable immigration to this District from Jaffna.

The Southern Province.

44. The Southern Province has increased by 13 per cent. as compared with 8·7 in the previous decade. The population consists almost entirely of home-born Siṉhalese. There is very little immigration into it of Siṉhalese from other Districts, and there is very small demand for Tamil labour.

The Galle District.

45. In the Galle District, of which 94 per cent. of the population is Siṉhalese, of whom all but 3 per cent. are Galle-born, the increase is 7 per cent. against 7·8 per cent. in 1881. I attribute this to the absence of the immigrant population, which was brought here when Galle was the port of call for mail steamers, and to the very considerable emigration to the Colombo District of persons who have followed the steamers. This subject will receive further elucidation when I come to deal with the birthplaces of the people. In the Talpé pattu the low rate of increase, 2·6 per cent., is accounted for by emigration. A very large proportion of the Galle emigrants come from this pattu. The low rate in the Walalláwiti kóralé may be attributed in part to the outbreaks of fever which have been, I understand, severe in that district, as well as to emigration.

The Mátara District.

46. In the Mátara District, in which 95 per cent. of the population is Siṉhalese, of whom only 3 per cent. were not born in the District, the increase of 16·9 as compared with 5·9 in the previous decade may be put down to the return of persons who, when Galle was a port of call for mail steamers, found occupation there. The increase being in the male population favours this assumption. All the divisions of the Mátara District, in which the food supply is probably more abundant than in any other part of the Island, show abnormal rates of increase, except the Morawak kóralé, where the population has increased by only 8·1 per cent., which is the rate without the inclusion of the estate population.

The Hambantota District

47. The Hambantoṭa District has increased by 24·2 per cent., the rate in each sex being the same. Of the total number of 17,401 persons added to the population in the decade, 16,821, or nearly 97 per cent., were Siṉhalese, as against 10,502, or 95 per cent., in the previous decade. The District is one in which there has been considerable expenditure on irrigation, and the great increase in the population is attributable to an improved food supply as well as to immigration. Of the Siṉhalese, forming 96 per cent. of the entire population, 8 per cent. of the males and 9 per cent. of the females were born elsewhere, a large number of the people coming from the next District of Mátara.

Necessity of alteration in method of tabulation of vital statistics

48. In closing this chapter I may be permitted to express the hope that the returns of births and deaths from 1890 will be so recorded that it may be possible from them to calculate hereafter, with some approximation to accuracy, what should be the natural increment in the population. The combination of nationalities makes the vital statistics given by the Registrar-General fallacious as a basis for calculation of the death- or birth-rate, and almost useless as a test of the accuracy of the Census returns. If the statements as to each nationality were kept separate, and the territorial subdivisions as set out in this report adopted, the returns would at any future Census-taking be as valuable as I have now found them misleading. To effect this object some small expenditure is necessary, for the Registrar-General cannot work without money, but it will enable that officer to make some practical use of the information which is now collected simply to cumber the office.

## CHAPTER IV.

### BIRTHPLACES.

Absence from Census Report of 1881 of information as to Birthplaces—Proportion of immigrants—Of each nationality born in Ceylon—Of the Europeans—Of the Burghers—Of the Siṉhalese—Of the Tamils—Of the Moormen—Of the Malays—Of "Others"—Table showing emigration and immigration of Siṉhalese—Of the Siṉhalese Districts—Of the Districts to which the Siṉhalese emigrate—Of the Tamil Districts—Of the Districts from which the Tamils emigrate—Of the Districts to which the Tamils emigrate—Of the Moormen: of the Districts from which they emigrate—Of the Districts to which the Moormen emigrate—Of the Malays—Of the Veḍḍahs—Interest attaching to this subject.

Absence from Census report of 1881 of information as to birthplaces.

THE absence from the Census report of 1881 of any record of the birthplaces of the people prevents my instituting comparisons which would have proved of very great value. The information, however, which the Census schedules now furnish puts at my disposal details regarding the composition and movements of the population, which are of considerable interest. Had it been possible so to deal with the figures that the migrations of the people from one part of a District to another part of the same District—that is, from one kóralé or pattu to another—could have been recorded, a still greater interest would have attached to this chapter; but this result could not have been obtained without an enormous expenditure of time and labour. I have therefore been content with returns which enable me to show the birthplaces of the people, and their movements from one District to another.

Proportion of immigrants.

2. Of the whole population of Ceylon, nearly 9 per cent., of whom 173,861 were men and 94,244 were women, were immigrants. Of these, 234,957 were Tamils and 24,559 Moormen, of whom nearly all came from India.

Proportion of each nationality born in Ceylon.

3. The following statement shows the proportion of each nationality born in Ceylon:—

| | Proportions in 1,000. | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Persons. | Males. | Females. |
| Europeans ... | 330 | 267 | 443 |
| Burghers ... | 983 | 976 | 990 |
| Siṉhalese ... | 999 | 999 | 999 |
| Tamils ... | 675 | 627 | 734 |
| Moormen ... | 875 | 818 | 947 |
| Malays ... | 987 | 984 | 991 |
| Veḍḍahs ... | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| Others ... | 408 | 322 | 567 |

Of the Europeans

4. Of the Europeans, 33 in every hundred were born in the Colony, the proportion of females being 44 to 27 of males. In every thousand 45 came from Asia, 595 from Europe, 9 from Africa, 9 from America, and 8 from Australasia. From England and Wales came 1,609, of whom 1,114 were men and 495 women; from Ireland 168 men and 86 women; and from Scotland 468 men and 145 women. France contributed 95 men and 43 women, and Germany 50 men and 11 women.

Of the Burghers.

5. Of the Burghers, 3 in every two hundred came from India. Six were born in Europe, 4 in Africa, 1 in America, and 1 at sea.

Of the Siṉhalese

6. Of the Siṉhalese, all but 33 were home-born. Of those born in Europe the parents formed part of the company of a travelling showman. There has been some emigration to Australia, and more to the Straits Settlements during the past decade, which accounts for the births there.

Of the Tamils.

7. Of the Tamils, 37 per cent. of the men and 27 per cent. of the women were born out of Ceylon, and principally in India. One was born in France, 16 in the Mauritius, and 2 in the West Indies.

Of the Moormen.

8. Of the Moormen, 875 in every thousand were born in Ceylon. All but 20 of the remainder came from India. Seven came from Arabia, 5 from the Straits Settlements, 3 from the Maldives, and 3 from Africa; the other 2 from Java and Afghanistan. Nine did not specify their birthplaces.

Of the Malays.

9. Of the Malays, 55 came from the Straits, 46 from India, 16 from Java, 9 from Hongkong, and 2 from China.

Of the "Others."

10. Of the "Others," 59 per cent. were strangers. Asia gave birth to all but 2 in every hundred of these.

Table showing emigration and immigration of Siṉhalese.

11. The following statement has been prepared to show as to the Siṉhalese population the number of persons born in a District who have left it for other parts of the Island; the number of persons who have so left it and gone beyond the adjoining Districts; the proportion of the emigrants to persons born in the District;

the proportion of the emigrants who have gone beyond the adjoining Districts; and the proportion of the population of each District who were not born in it:—

A.—Siṇhalese.

| District. | Number of Persons born in the District enumerated elsewhere. | | Number of Persons born in the District enumerated beyond the adjoining District. | | Proportion to the Persons born in the District of the Persons enumerated elsewhere. | | Proportion to Persons enumerated elsewhere of Persons enumerated beyond an adjoining District. | | Proportion in Resident Population of Persons born elsewhere. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | M | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| Colombo ... | 21,562 | 12,362 | 13,052 | 5,164 | 11 | 7 | 60 | 42 | 8 | 6 |
| Negombo ... | 9,145 | 7,267 | 1,628 | 513 | 14 | 12 | 18 | 7 | 7 | 5 |
| Kalutara ... | 11,971 | 6,436 | 4,578 | 819 | 13 | 8 | 38 | 13 | 6 | 5 |
| Ratnapura ... | 2,115 | 1,951 | 109 | 54 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 10 | 5 |
| Kégalla ... | 3,263 | 3,721 | 386 | 179 | 5 | 7 | 12 | 5 | 10 | 9 |
| Kurunégala ... | 4,139 | 3,850 | 564 | 170 | 4 | 4 | 14 | 4 | 11 | 8 |
| Puttalam ... | 253 | 260 | 35 | 22 | 7 | 8 | 14 | 8 | 41 | 29 |
| Chilaw ... | 1,660 | 1,393 | 214 | 82 | 7 | 6 | 13 | 6 | 20 | 15 |
| Kandy ... | 7,787 | 6,871 | 1,952 | 1,159 | 10 | 9 | 25 | 17 | 14 | 8 |
| Mátalé ... | 1,722 | 1,711 | 346 | 137 | 7 | 7 | 20 | 8 | 12 | 12 |
| Nuwara Eliya ... | 1,326 | 1,377 | 300 | 155 | 8 | 8 | 23 | 11 | 26 | 12 |
| Uva ... | 1,437 | 1,093 | 415 | 230 | 2 | 2 | 29 | 21 | 11 | 3 |
| North-Central Province | 739 | 614 | 102 | 13 | 2 | 2 | 14 | 2 | 10 | 8 |
| Galle ... | 18,005 | 6,660 | 13,952 | 3,746 | 15 | 6 | 77 | 56 | 3 | 3 |
| Mátara ... | 9,038 | 6,130 | 3,813 | 753 | 10 | 7 | 42 | 12 | 3 | 3 |
| Hambantoṭa ... | 1,683 | 1,251 | 308 | 67 | 4 | 3 | 18 | 5 | 8 | 8 |

Of the Siṇhalese Districts.

12. If we leave out of consideration the Jaffna, Mannár, and Mullaittívu Districts of the Northern Province, where the Siṇhalese population is an immigrant population, and of little numerical importance, we find that Galle sent out the largest proportion of emigrants. Of these, 77 per cent. of the men and 56 per cent. of the women went beyond the next Districts; but of 13,952 men and of 3,746 women who were thus adventurous, 4,723 men and 2,169 women got no further than the City of Colombo and the adjoining District. A large number, however, were attracted to the Central Province, and a few were found in such remote parts as Mullaittívu and Vavuniya. Next in order to Galle is Negombo, but a small portion of its emigrants went beyond the adjoining Districts of the North-Western Province. A considerable number of fishermen were drawn to Mannár, and in the season large parties are found catching and drying fish for export on the coasts of the Northern and Eastern Provinces. After Negombo comes the sister-District of the Western Province, Kalutara, which sent out 11,971 men and 6,436 women, of whom, however, 4,986 men and 4,404 women did not pass Colombo. Of the men 38 per cent. and of the women 13 per cent. were more courageous; and representatives of the District were to be found in large numbers in the Central Province and Uva, to which they were doubtless attracted by the opportunities afforded by the extension of the railway. Colombo follows Kalutara, having the largest number of emigrants (33,924 persons), of whom 13,052 men and 5,164 women went beyond the adjoining Districts. Of these, 6,238 men and 2,380 women found occupation in the Central Province and Uva. The North-Western Province adjoining gave a home to 5,498 men and 2,290 women, who were probably employed in the national work of cocoanut planting. After Colombo, but at a long distance, is the Kandy District, with 7,787 men and 6,871 women. Of these it is probable that a large proportion formed matrimonial connections in the adjoining Districts. Of the men one-fourth and of the women one-sixth travelled further, but Colombo received the majority of them. Some, however, got to the Southern Province and to far Hambantoṭa. It must however be remembered, in dealing with the Siṇhalese population of the Central Province and of Uva, how considerable a number of low-country Siṇhalese settled in the Kandyan villages when coffee was a profitable investment, and how large a proportion of these have returned to their homes since coffee died out. It is probable that a majority of the Kandy-born emigrants going beyond the adjoining Districts are low-country people by descent. The number of true Kandyans who went beyond the adjoining Districts is probably very small. After Kandy is Mátara, of whose people 9,038 men and 6,130 women born in the District went elsewhere. Of these seven out of eight of the women proceeded no further than the neighbouring Districts, but 3,813 men sought employment in more distant parts. Of these the majority were numbered in the Central Province and Uva. Of the other Siṇhalese Districts, there is none which shows any considerable emigration beyond the adjoining Districts, to which intermarriages rather than the prospect of employment formed the attraction. With these it is not necessary to deal further.

Of the Districts to which the Siṇhalese emigrate.

13. So far I have written of those Districts which lend their people to other divisions. I now come to speak of those which borrow from others. In the first place of these is the Puttalam District, which takes its Siṇhalese population from the neighbouring Districts of Kurunégala and Chilaw and from Negombo and Kalutara. These are all brought by the inducements to cocoanut cultivation. Negombo sends one-third of the immigrants, with one woman to every two men.

Kurunégala adjusts the proportions by sending more women than men. Kalutara, however, sends 13 men to one woman. Next to Puttalam is Nuwara Eliya, of whose Siṉhalese population one-fourth of the men and one-eighth of the women are strangers. Galle, Colombo, and Kandy are the great contributors, and the attraction is the railway extension. Of the Siṉhalese people of Kotmalé nearly one-half were foreigners, of whom one-fourth of the men came from Galle. Chilaw takes one-half of her Siṉhalese from Negombo, the proportion of women being large. Kandy and Mátalé follow Chilaw. There are constant intermarriages between the people of these Districts and of Kégalla, Kurunégala, and Nuwara Eliya, which increases the foreign-born population. Colombo (with two men to every woman) and Galle (with four men to each woman) are the largest contributors. A majority of these are found in the tea districts of Uda Bulatgama. Uva takes its largest number of immigrants from Colombo, Kalutara, Galle, and Mátara, there being hardly more than one woman to every ten men. Its people intermarry largely with the neighbouring Districts of Kandy, Nuwara Eliya, and Ratnapura. Kurunégala borrows the same proportion as Uva, its creditors being Colombo, Negombo, Chilaw, Kandy, and Kégalla. With these last two Districts it has long existing matrimonial connections. The low-country people come for cocoanut cultivation, and are quickly buying out the indolent Kandyans, and converting the western part of the District into a vast cocoanut garden. Ratnapura owes one-tenth of its Siṉhalese to its neighbours. An interesting attempt at colonisation was made by the late Mr. Charles de Soyza, who imported 127 men, women, and children from the neighbourhood of his estates in Nuwara Eliya District to form a settlement in Kuruwiti kóralé. This accounts for the presence in the Ratnapura District of Siṉhalese from Nuwara Eliya. The North-Central Province—the old District of Nuwarakaláwiya, the home in past ages, if her ruined palaces and temples speak truth, of a population vast in numbers and of indomitable industry—is now a debtor for a tenth of her scanty population. Her largest creditors are Kurunégala and Mátalé, but Colombo, Galle, and Mátara lend their aid, and distant Hambaṇṭota sends 20 men and 1 woman. The tea cultivation in Kégalla District attracts some strangers, principally from Colombo and Galle, and her people intermarry largely with the neighbouring Districts of Kandy and Kurunégala. These are the principal borrowing Districts. Mátara and Galle have the smallest stranger-population, lending to each other, but asking little aid elsewhere.

Of the Tamil Districts.

14. The Tamils of Ceylon, except in the Northern and Eastern Provinces, are the immediate descendants of immigrants from India, of which they speak as their home, but a large number of them have never left Ceylon, and may almost be regarded as natives of the country. The details already given of the Siṉhalese are now supplied of the Tamil people.

B.—Tamils.

| District. | Number of Persons born in the District enumerated elsewhere. | | Number of Persons born in the District enumerated beyond the adjoining Districts. | | Proportion to Persons born in the District of the Persons enumerated elsewhere. | | Proportion to Persons enumerated elsewhere of Persons enumerated beyond the adjoining Districts. | | Proportion in Resident Population of Tamils born elsewhere. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| Colombo ... | 1,202 | 830 | 754 | 486 | 20 | 16 | 63 | 58 | 77 | 60 |
| Negombo ... | 591 | 359 | 129 | 59 | 10 | 6 | 22 | 16 | 28 | 12 |
| Kalutara ... | 111 | 66 | 37 | 25 | 34 | 22 | 33 | 38 | 92 | 85 |
| Ratnapura ... | 193 | 142 | 23 | 26 | 27 | 22 | 12 | 18 | 88 | 81 |
| Kégalla ... | 98 | 89 | 33 | 30 | 15 | 14 | 34 | 34 | 96 | 94 |
| Kurunégala ... | 166 | 158 | 57 | 53 | 16 | 18 | 34 | 33 | 78 | 69 |
| Puttalam ... | 104 | 80 | 44 | 28 | 5 | 4 | 42 | 35 | 49 | 33 |
| Chilaw ... | 160 | 175 | 28 | 22 | 8 | 10 | 17 | 12 | 58 | 40 |
| Kandy ... | 2,330 | 1,974 | 495 | 369 | 24 | 21 | 21 | 19 | 87 | 83 |
| Mátalé ... | 418 | 381 | 171 | 162 | 23 | 22 | 41 | 42 | 86 | 82 |
| Nuwara Eliya ... | 731 | 690 | 183 | 167 | 19 | 18 | 25 | 24 | 92 | 88 |
| Uva ... | 401 | 398 | 79 | 85 | 12 | 12 | 20 | 21 | 86 | 80 |
| North-Central Province | 92 | 60 | 42 | 25 | 7 | 5 | 46 | 41 | 71 | 56 |
| Jaffna ... | 10782 | 4,503 | 8,113 | 3,368 | 7 | 3 | 75 | 75 | ·5 | ·25 |
| Mannár ... | 292 | 162 | 90 | 31 | 5 | 3 | 31 | 19 | 35 | 15 |
| Mullaittívu ... | 305 | 244 | 9 | 2 | 10 | 9 | — | | 20 | 17 |
| Vavuniya ... | 81 | 59 | 9 | 5 | 3 | 3 | — | | 29 | 22 |
| Batticaloa ... | 736 | 289 | 334 | 134 | 2 | 1 | 45 | 46 | 4 | 1·5 |
| Trincomalee ... | 375 | 209 | 177 | 97 | 6 | 4 | 47 | 46 | 38 | 28 |
| Galle ... | 152 | 98 | 110 | 66 | 35 | 26 | 72 | 67 | 84 | 64 |
| Mátara ... | 126 | 89 | 39 | 19 | 53 | 48 | 31 | 21 | 90 | 86 |
| Hambantota ... | 29 | 18 | 12 | 8 | 28 | 24 | 41 | 44 | 86 | 76 |

Of the Districts from which the Tamils emigrate

15. Of the Jaffna Tamils, 15,285 persons—10,782 men and 4,503 women—were numbered elsewhere. Three out of four of both sexes went beyond the Mannár, Mullaittívu, and Vavuniya Districts, which adjoin Jaffna. One-half the women and one-third of the men went to Trincomalee, where they probably found work as tobacco planters. Twelve hundred men and four hundred women were numbered in Colombo. The North-Central Province gave a home to more than a

thousand seeking to profit by the advantages of good soil and ample water supply. Mannár, Mullaittívu, and Vavuniya send out a few emigrants to the neighbouring Districts, but a very small proportion go any further. Trincomalee and Batticaloa part with a small number, but of these the majority are found in the North-Central Province and Colombo. Of the Tamils born elsewhere than in the Northern and Eastern Provinces, Kandy, Colombo, and Nuwara Eliya have the largest number of emigrants. These are distributed all over the Island wherever tea cultivation or public works require them.

Of the Districts to which the Tamils emigrate.

16. Kégalla and Kalutara, the two new and prosperous tea districts, have, as might be anticipated, the largest proportion of Tamils born elsewhere. Nuwara Eliya comes next, and after Nuwara Eliya the North-Central Province, where villages of Tamil settlers are engaged in agriculture. The District having fewest stranger-Tamils is Jaffna, where their numbers are little over one in a thousand of the people.

Of the Moormen of the Districts from which they emigrated

17. Of the Moormen, or Moors, or Moorish people—whose origin is lost in antiquity, but whose sect of religion points rather to Persia and India than to Arabia as their home—representatives are to be found "residing wherever the locality presents a favourable opening for trade, or traversing the remote and secluded districts to barter manufactured commodities for the produce of the interior." Their language is Tamil, although in the Sinhalese Districts they also speak Sinhalese. The table which follows shows that Kalutara, of whose population this class supplies 7 in every hundred, had the largest number of emigrants, of whom one-third travelled beyond the next Districts. Of these, the largest number went to Kégalla and Badulla. Kandy had the next highest proportion of emigrants, but few went further than the adjoining Districts. Of the Colombo emigrants, one-half the men did not go beyond the next divisions, but large numbers were found in the Central Province and Uva, and some few journeyed to the coming Pearl Fishery at Mannár. Of the Galle and Mátara Moormen who went beyond Kalutara and Colombo, the largest number were counted in the Central Province and Uva, but the attractions of Colombo overcame a considerable proportion of those from Galle. Batticaloa sent out 654 persons, of whom only 93 were women, but most of these went no further than Badulla and Trincomalee, although some were found in the North-Central Province.

C.—Moors.

| District | Number of Persons born in the District enumerated elsewhere. | | Number of Persons born in the District enumerated beyond the adjoining Districts. | | Proportion to the Persons born in the District of the Persons enumerated elsewhere | | Proportion in Resident Population of Moormen born elsewhere. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M | F. | M. | F. |
| Colombo ... | 882 | 415 | 497 | 229 | 9 | 5 | 50 | 25 |
| Negombo ... | 197 | 133 | 14 | 13 | 17 | 13 | 47 | 9 |
| Kalutara ... | 2,352 | 338 | 728 | 95 | 29 | 5 | 5 | 3 |
| Ratnapura .. | 105 | 78 | 14 | 7 | 27 | 23 | 77 | 39 |
| Kégalla | 193 | 128 | 23 | 18 | 7 | 5 | 34 | 17 |
| Kurunégala ... | 169 | 90 | 20 | 11 | 4 | 2 | 26 | 10 |
| Puttalam ... | 91 | 39 | 17 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 15 | 6 |
| Chilaw ... | 62 | 39 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 4 | 31 | 7 |
| Kandy ... | 946 | 556 | 357 | 142 | 12 | 7 | 40 | 17 |
| Mátalé ... | 170 | 101 | 37 | 17 | 8 | 6 | 36 | 18 |
| Nuwara Eliya ... | 41 | 62 | 11 | 17 | 14 | 22 | 82 | 64 |
| Uva ... | 146 | 94 | 47 | 21 | 8 | 5 | 54 | 16 |
| North-Central Prov | 69 | 16 | — | 1 | 2 | 1 | 24 | 7 |
| Jaffna .. | 168 | 60 | 87 | 27 | 11 | 4 | 15 | 9 |
| Mannár ... | 354 | 94 | 73 | 6 | 10 | 3 | 20 | 2 |
| Mullaittívu ... | 22 | 16 | — | — | 11 | 9 | 27 | 16 |
| Vavuniya ... | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | 31 | 13 |
| Batticaloa ... | 561 | 93 | 122 | 16 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 2 |
| Trincomalee . | 111 | 22 | 23 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 12 | 5 |
| Galle ... | 733 | 307 | 570 | 212 | 14 | 6 | 8 | 3 |
| Mátara ... | 569 | 219 | 353 | 78 | 18 | 7 | 5 | 2 |
| Hambantota ... | 112 | 73 | 12 | 18 | 15 | 10 | 23 | 9 |

Of the Districts to which the Moormen emigrated

18. Nuwara Eliya, Ratnapura, Badulla, and Kégalla had the largest number of immigrant Moormen. The proportion in Vavuniya is high, but the numbers very small. To Ratnapura the attraction of the Moormen is the trade in gems, which are found there in some abundance. Batticaloa had the fewest stranger-Moormen, and is followed by Hambantota, Jaffna, Mannár, and Negombo. Mullaittívu was given as the birthplace of the smallest number.

Of the Malays.

19. Of the Malays, three-fifths were born in Colombo and Kandy, and more than one-fifth were distributed between Hambantota, Trincomalee, Galle, and Kurunégala. There are Malays everywhere, but, except in the Districts which I have named, their numbers are very small, and they form an altogether insignificant element in the population, distinguished, however, as well by education as by the independence of their demeanour.



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Of the Veddahs.

20. To the causes which led to the inclusion in the number of the Sinhalese and Tamils of the Veddahs in the North-Central Province and Trincomalee I have already adverted. One Veddah found at Vavuniya gave the North-Central Province as his birthplace; and two men and seven women counted in Batticaloa came from Uva. With these exceptions all the Veddahs were enumerated in the Batticaloa District and Uva, where they were born.

Interest attaching to this subject.

21. The tabular statements printed in this chapter elucidate more fully a subject which has struck me as being of peculiar interest. When the next Census report comes to be written, it will be possible, if the records upon which these statements are based are carefully preserved, to trace the wanderings of the people and their migrations from District to District, and to weigh with some accuracy the considerations which have influenced these movements. The spirit of unrest which is manifesting itself in the most populous parts of the Western and Southern Provinces will be fostered and encouraged by the facilities for travel afforded by railway extension, and it requires no prophetic faculty to be able to picture that in a not too remote future there will be found amongst the grim ruins of a bygone age happy colonies emulating the industry and prosperity of the generations whose monuments overshadow them.

## CHAPTER V.

### THE SEXES OF THE POPULATION.

The proportions of the sexes in the general population : the effect of immigration—Of Ceylon-born Europeans—Of "Others"— Preponderance of females the general rule in Europe ; in India a preponderance of males—Preponderance of males in the Sinhalese population—Ages at which such exists—Comparison of death-rates—Effect of early marriages and mortality in child-bearing—Observations on the proportion of the sexes in the Provinces and Districts in the Sinhalese—The proportion of the sexes in the Burghers and Eurasians—Of the Malays—Of the Tamils—Of the Tamils in the Northern and Eastern Provinces—Of the Moormen—Existing causes which may affect the proportion of the sexes.

The proportions of the sexes in the general population. The effect of immigration.

OF the 3,007,789 persons enumerated, 1,593,376 were males and 1,414,413 females. This gives an excess of 178,963 males, the ratio of females to males being 8,876 to 10,000. The primary cause of the excess of males is to be found in immigration. Of the India-born persons there were 171,342 males to 93,238 females, the males being in number nearly double the female immigrants. The classes which are affected by immigration are the Europeans, Tamils, Moormen, and "Others." This is made manifest by reference to the following statement, from which it will be seen that in all these races the proportion of males largely exceeds the females, while at no age-period are the females in excess. It is a consequence of the inflow of adult males who are naturally largely in the majority in an immigrant population. It will be observed, however, that in all the races except the Veddahs and "Others" (whose numbers are not large) the excess of males has been gradually growing smaller, pointing to an increase in the number of female immigrants; or to a decrease in the number of male immigrants, exercising therefore a less disturbing influence on the relative proportions of the sexes.

Comparative Table of the Number of Males in a Thousand of the Population of each Nationality at each Decennial Period.

| CEYLON. | Year | All Ages. | 10— | 20— | 30— | 40— | 50— | 60— | Upwards of 60. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Europeans... | 1871 | 671 | 475 | 616 | 763 | 726 | 753 | 714 | 650 |
| | 1881 | 658 | 514 | 533 | 718 | 727 | 742 | 764 | 623 |
| | 1891 | 637 | 530 | 553 | 661 | 676 | 722 | 688 | 629 |
| Burghers ... | 1871 | 504 | 517 | 490 | 480 | 523 | 534 | 520 | 473 |
| | 1881 | 499 | 504 | 493 | 474 | 508 | 502 | 554 | 496 |
| | 1891 | 496 | 505 | 483 | 463 | 527 | 490 | 532 | 515 |
| Sinhalese ... | 1871 | 522 | 528 | 494 | 478 | 531 | 528 | 619 | 586 |
| | 1881 | 521 | 526 | 494 | 485 | 543 | 504 | 625 | 611 |
| | 1891 | 521 | 527 | 487 | 494 | 547 | 505 | 602 | 618 |
| Tamils ... | 1871 | 559 | 513 | 547 | 584 | 612 | 582 | 590 | 579 |
| | 1881 | 554 | 509 | 525 | 574 | 631 | 576 | 594 | 584 |
| | 1891 | 547 | 507 | 534 | 549 | 611 | 579 | 583 | 587 |
| Moormen ... | 1871 | 561 | 537 | 544 | 539 | 608 | 598 | 673 | 622 |
| | 1881 | 562 | 541 | 537 | 551 | 598 | 593 | 683 | 673 |
| | 1891 | 554 | 534 | 527 | 549 | 595 | 527 | 659 | 645 |
| Malays ... | 1881 | 533 | 520 | 480 | 483 | 566 | 582 | 707 | 695 |
| | 1891 | 531 | 518 | 496 | 485 | 556 | 586 | 667 | 683 |
| Veddahs ... | 1871 | 526 | 538 | 436 | 529 | 524 | 641 | 680 | 614 |
| | 1881 | 528 | 548 | 431 | 508 | 600 | 538 | 647 | 604 |
| | 1891 | 531 | 547 | 464 | 494 | 595 | 501 | 756 | 1,000 |
| Others ... | 1881 | 642 | 503 | 538 | 690 | 747 | 744 | 796 | 747 |
| | 1891 | 648 | 502 | 624 | 656 | 743 | 745 | 811 | 814 |

Of Europeans.

2. Of the Ceylon-born Europeans, constituting 33 per cent. of the entire European population, 796 were males and 752 females, the proportion of females being 94·47 to 100 males. The males are in excess at every age-period except at the ages "under 1" and "11 to 15," where their numbers are equal, and at the age "10 to 11," where the females are 28 to 26 males. The excess of males at the infantile ages is contrary to the general European rule, and would appear to show that the climate is under certain conditions conducive to infantile vitality. The predominence of the males at later ages may be attributable to other than natural causes.

Of the "Others."

3. Of the "Others" the proportion of males has increased during the decade. Of the Ceylon-born, of whom there are 41 in every hundred, the proportion of males is 511 in every thousand. In the age-periods under 5, the females predominate. This class is made up of elements brought together from all sides to which it is not possible to apply any one general rule.

Preponderance of females the general rule in Europe

In India a preponderance of males

4. So far I have dealt with the two classes which may be said to be more entirely foreign, to which the laws governing the permanent population are not perhaps applicable. The races to which I now address myself (reserving for the present any reference to the Tamils and Moormen) are those which are natives of the Island. It was found at the Census of 1881 in England and Wales that there were 100 males enumerated to 105·5 females. A similar preponderance exists in almost all European countries. In Greece and Bulgaria the males are in the majority, and in Belgium and Italy the sexes almost balance each other numerically. In India the males preponderate, but it has been debated whether this preponderance is real or attributable to erroneous enumeration. It has been thought that the small consideration paid to females may have led to their unintentional careless exclusion, while it has been feared that in those races in which social laws require the seclusion of females there may have been an intentional omission of them from the schedules. The fact that at every succeeding Census the number of females in the population has been found to increase lends colour to the suggestion that the preponderance of males may be due to the omission of females from the enumeration.

Preponderance of males in the Sinhalese population

5. In the Sinhalese population, which is not increased by immigration nor decreased in any sensible degree by emigration, the males have always predominated. In 1881 and 1891 the ratio was identical, 521 in 1,000, being one in a thousand lower than in 1871. Comparison of the figures for the three decades shows that the males predominated at every age-period except two, and that at those same two periods all three enumerations showed an excess of females. The identity of these results appears to me to go some way towards proving the general accuracy of the returns. It has not been suggested that there was any desire upon the part of the Sinhalese to conceal the number of their females, and so far as I am able to judge the schedules may be accepted as accurate.

Ages at which such exists

6. If the figures are compared for the quinquennial periods of 1881 and 1891 (for which only are such statements available), it is found that the males are in excess up to 15, and that the females predominate from 15 to 30, when the males regain their supremacy and maintain it to the end, except in the period from 45 to 50, when the females are in the ascendant.

This condition of things is altogether against the experience of England. The numerical advantage which is with the males at the time of birth is soon lost owing to their higher death-rate. "It has vanished by the end of the first year of life." After that the females outnumber the males in increasing proportions except in the 10 and under 15 years age-period, when the males equal or slightly outnumber them.

Comparison of death-rates

7. One cause of the preponderance of the females in England is the higher death-rate of the males at infantile ages. Now the figures for the period from 1881 to 1889 given by the Registrar-General of Ceylon in his report for 1890 show that the female death-rate is higher in every period up to 15, lower from 15 to 20, higher from 20 to 45 (being highest between 20—25 and 25—35), lower between 45 and 55, and higher in all succeeding ages.

Effect of early marriages and mortality in child-bearing

8. The reason for the higher female mortality in the adult age-periods may probably be found in early marriages, and consequent diminished vitality. A girl is often a mother before she herself has attained full maturity. Bearing children rapidly under unfavourable conditions she loses her youth, her strength, and her life very early. There is also no doubt that the mortality in child-bearing is excessive. The remedies and appliances made use of in cases of childbirth by native midwives and native doctors are said to be such as Science condemns as under the circumstances most hurtful, provocative of the very evils which should be combated. It is said that the ascertained rate of mortality in Ceylon is one death to forty-four accouchements, against one in one hundred and eighty-five in England! The fact that in the vast majority of cases the women are without skilled assistance at the time of delivery, and that their troubles come upon them in miserable hovels absolutely devoid of sanitary arrangements, strengthens the opinion that in this is to be found a very active cause of female mortality. These may be the causes which operate in increasing the rate of female mortality, and I may here repeat the opinion which I expressed in 1881, that the subject is deserving of extended inquiry.

There appears also reason to believe that women, enfeebled by insufficient sustenance, and unable to bear male children, are yet able to bear female infants. The vitality of infants born under such conditions is extremely low, while the ability of the mother to sustain life is reduced, resulting too often probably in the death of both.

Observations on the proportion of the sexes in the Provinces and Districts in the Sinhalese

9. In the Western Province the ratio of males has increased from 507 in 1871, to 510 in 1881, and 511 in 1891, but in all three years the females exceed the males numerically at the age-periods from 10 to 20, 20 to 30, and 40 to 50. In the Colombo Municipality the females predominated in 1871, but in 1881 and 1891 the males were largely in excess, showing the effects of the immigration to which I have elsewhere adverted. In the Colombo District the ratio of males is higher in 1881 than in 1891, and the females are in excess at three adult age-periods—a result due to the emigration of adult males. In the Negombo District the ratio of males is higher than at any preceding time, the females being in excess at only one age-period. It will be remembered that of the Sinhalese population of Negombo 7 per cent. were aliens. In Kalutara the ratio of males has increased from 507 to 509, and although at three age-periods the females are in excess the proportion of males is larger at every age-period than at either of the preceding enumerations. This result I am inclined to attribute to a decrease in the number of emigrants from this District, consequent on the introduction of tea cultivation which has found occupation for the men at home.

In the Province of Sabaragamuwa the ratio of males to females is lower than in 1871 or 1881. The decrease is in the Ratnapura District, in which there are six fewer males in each thousand than in 1871 or 1881, when the number was identical. The decrease is in the numbers "under 10" and "under 20," and points to infantile mortality during the two decades since 1871. In the Kęgalla District there is a small increase in the males, which principally declares itself in the age-period between 20 and 30, indicating an accession of adult labourers.

In the North-Western Province there is an addition of eight per thousand to the male population between the ages of 20—30 and 30—40. This increase is found in all the Districts, and is significant of the advent of adult strangers to engage in cocoanut cultivation.

In the Central Province the ratio of males to females fell from 538 in 1871 to 534 in 1881 and 525 in 1891. In the Kandy District between 1871 and 1891 there was a loss of fifteen males in every thousand. The decrease in the number of males is greatest at the age-periods 10—20, 20—30, and 40—50, but the number of males is larger at the period 0—10 in 1891 than in either of the two preceding enumerations, indicating a low rate of mortality. In the Mátalé District the number of males has diminished, except at the period between 20—30. In Nuwara Eliya the ratio of males is higher than in any other District, but is lower than in either 1871 or 1881, the fall being in the periods from 10—20 and 20—30; but the number of boys under 10 has increased.

In Uva there is an increase in the number of males "under 10" and in the age period 30—40, but a decrease at all other periods, the ratio in the whole population remaining as in 1881—one per 1,000 higher than in 1871.

In the North-Central Province the number of males between 10 and 40 years of age has considerably increased, but there is a small decrease in the number of boys under 10. The increase in the adult males, amounting to 10 per 1,000, supports what I have already written as to the existence here of alien Siṉhalese in considerable numbers.

In the Southern Province the ratio of males has fallen from 512 in 1871 to 507 in 1881 and 506 in 1891. In the Galle District there are more women than men. In 1871 there were 507 men to 493 women; in 1881 there were 501 men to 499 women; and in 1891 there were 495 men to 505 women. This is a consequence of the emigration of adult males. The number of women has increased at every age-period except the first, in which there is a decided increase of males, proving that it is not to mortality that the diminution in the males is attributable. In the Mátara District there is an increase in the total number of males, consequent on an increase at the age-periods "under 10," "under 40," and "under 60," but a decrease in the number "above 10 and under 40," pointing to emigration. In the Hambantoṭa, District there has been a slight increase in the numbers of the female population. These observations are summed up in the following table :—

Comparative Table of the Number of Males in a Thousand of the Siṉhalese Population at each Decennial Period.

| | Year. | All ages. | 10 — | 20 — | 30 — | 40 — | 50 — | 60 — |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Western Province ... | 1871 | 507 | 521 | 476 | 456 | 501 | 499 | 618 |
| | 1881 | 510 | 520 | 481 | 470 | 525 | 471 | 619 |
| | 1891 | 511 | 518 | 484 | 481 | 533 | 492 | 571 |
| Colombo Municipality ... | 1871 | 498 | 504 | 498 | 457 | 504 | 452 | 608 |
| | 1881 | 508 | 520 | 513 | 462 | 523 | 446 | 604 |
| | 1891 | 519 | 517 | 533 | 487 | 535 | 469 | 565 |
| Colombo District ... | 1871 | 505 | 520 | 468 | 451 | 493 | 495 | 626 |
| | 1881 | 509 | 517 | 474 | 478 | 520 | 462 | 622 |
| | 1891 | 507 | 517 | 461 | 481 | 532 | 492 | 565 |
| Negombo District ... | 1871 | 514 | 514 | 479 | 481 | 544 | 536 | 601 |
| | 1881 | 518 | 514 | 471 | 500 | 570 | 513 | 636 |
| | 1891 | 519 | 508 | 485 | 500 | 569 | 525 | 614 |
| Kalutara District ... | 1871 | 507 | 530 | 481 | 448 | 484 | 487 | 617 |
| | 1881 | 507 | 530 | 489 | 437 | 504 | 467 | 609 |
| | 1891 | 509 | 531 | 491 | 465 | 509 | 477 | 551 |
| Province of Sabaragamuwa ... | 1871 | 544 | 539 | 515 | 471 | 564 | 575 | 649 |
| | 1881 | 541 | 530 | 513 | 494 | 574 | 542 | 658 |
| | 1891 | 538 | 526 | 494 | 525 | 583 | 542 | 628 |
| Ratnapura District ... | 1871 | 551 | 545 | 536 | 480 | 556 | 553 | 665 |
| | 1881 | 551 | 537 | 536 | 510 | 574 | 534 | 649 |
| | 1891 | 545 | 530 | 503 | 521 | 597 | 541 | 622 |
| Kęgalla District ... | 1871 | 537 | 533 | 497 | 463 | 572 | 595 | 630 |
| | 1881 | 533 | 525 | 493 | 479 | 575 | 549 | 667 |
| | 1891 | 534 | 522 | 487 | 529 | 572 | 543 | 474 |
| North-Western Province ... | 1871 | 529 | 529 | 496 | 494 | 560 | 548 | 629 |
| | 1881 | 531 | 532 | 497 | 511 | 557 | 540 | 641 |
| | 1891 | 539 | 531 | 490 | 543 | 577 | 534 | 671 |
| Kurunęgala District ... | 1871 | 527 | 527 | 494 | 492 | 556 | 544 | 625 |
| | 1881 | 529 | 533 | 493 | 506 | 555 | 534 | 638 |
| | 1891 | 538 | 533 | 486 | 535 | 576 | 533 | 673 |
| Puttaḷam and Chilaw Districts ... | 1871 | 538 | 537 | 503 | 506 | 582 | 565 | 648 |
| | 1881 | 539 | 529 | 510 | 528 | 566 | 570 | 649 |
| | 1891 | 546 | 525 | 505 | 571 | 583 | 536 | 663 |

[Continued over]

| | Year. | All Ages. | 10— | 20— | 30— | 40— | 50— | 60— |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| CENTRAL PROVINCE ... | 1871 | 538 | 513 | 522 | 533 | 574 | 554 | 627 |
| | 1881 | 534 | 517 | 505 | 522 | 575 | 520 | 663 |
| | 1891 | 525 | 520 | 489 | 507 | 565 | 524 | 622 |
| Kandy District ... ... | 1871 | 535 | 509 | 519 | 534 | 566 | 557 | 625 |
| | 1881 | 529 | 512 | 500 | 520 | 571 | 511 | 669 |
| | 1891 | 520 | 518 | 485 | 495 | 562 | 518 | 621 |
| Mátalé District ... ... | 1871 | 532 | 525 | 507 | 500 | 571 | 532 | 634 |
| | 1881 | 532 | 529 | 508 | 487 | 566 | 516 | 658 |
| | 1891 | 522 | 520 | 493 | 518 | 529 | 509 | 628 |
| Nuwara Eliya District ... | 1871 | 561 | 511 | 559 | 576 | 614 | 578 | 629 |
| | 1881 | 558 | 521 | 525 | 575 | 605 | 560 | 651 |
| | 1891 | 549 | 527 | 506 | 540 | 623 | 566 | 614 |
| PROVINCE OF UVA ... | 1871 | 535 | 531 | 503 | 495 | 582 | 580 | 574 |
| | 1881 | 536 | 535 | 496 | 505 | 597 | 540 | 625 |
| | 1891 | 536 | 541 | 490 | 495 | 599 | 539 | 620 |
| NORTH-CENTRAL PROVINCE ... | 1871 | 528 | 520 | 506 | 502 | 570 | 556 | 612 |
| | 1881 | 525 | 526 | 486 | 509 | 565 | 566 | 596 |
| | 1891 | 535 | 522 | 495 | 533 | 580 | 555 | 617 |
| SOUTHERN PROVINCE ... | 1871 | 512 | 542 | 491 | 450 | 480 | 493 | 599 |
| | 1881 | 507 | 533 | 494 | 448 | 499 | 472 | 580 |
| | 1891 | 506 | 538 | 480 | 440 | 500 | 457 | 573 |
| Galle District ... ... | 1871 | 507 | 540 | 487 | 438 | 469 | 469 | 604 |
| | 1881 | 501 | 520 | 487 | 429 | 491 | 461 | 564 |
| | 1891 | 495 | 537 | 465 | 422 | 487 | 454 | 538 |
| Mátara District ... ... | 1871 | 512 | 541 | 489 | 460 | 484 | 518 | 578 |
| | 1881 | 510 | 532 | 496 | 465 | 496 | 477 | 580 |
| | 1891 | 513 | 540 | 490 | 453 | 503 | 439 | 601 |
| Hambantota District ... | 1871 | 522 | 550 | 505 | 462 | 500 | 509 | 623 |
| | 1881 | 520 | 531 | 510 | 464 | 531 | 497 | 636 |
| | 1891 | 518 | 537 | 500 | 457 | 523 | 500 | 606 |

The proportion of the sexes in the Burghers and Eurasians.

10. Of the Burgher and Eurasian population there were 21,231 persons enumerated, of whom 10,534 were males and 10,697 females. Of these, 10,284 males and 10,588 females were born in Ceylon. The proportion of males in the total population was 496 in 1,000, and in the Ceylon-born 493. Contrary to what has been proved to be the case in respect of the Sinhalese population, the females outnumber the males.

The proportion of males in 1871, 1881, and 1891 at each decennial age-period is given below :—

| | Number of Males in One Thousand of the Population. | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 1871. | 1881. | 1891. |
| At all Ages ... | 504 | 499 | 496 |
| 0— 10 ... | 517 | 504 | 505 |
| 10— 20 ... | 490 | 493 | 483 |
| 20— 30 ... | 480 | 474 | 462 |
| 30— 40 ... | 523 | 508 | 526 |
| 40— 50 ... | 534 | 502 | 490 |
| 50— 60 ... | 520 | 554 | 532 |
| 60— 70 ... | 526 | 498 | 566 |
| 70— 80 ... | 383 | 511 | 430 |
| 80— 90 ... | 347 | 432 | 366 |
| 90—100 ... | 500 | 400 | 444 |

The females outnumbered the males both in 1881 and 1891. From a comparison of the two years 1871 and 1891 it appears that the number of males has decreased at every age-period up to 50, except between 30 and 40, when there is a small increase. After 50 the males are in the ascendant up to 70, when the females outnumber the males to the end of life, but the number of persons of either sex who reach an advanced age is small. Reference to the quinquennial age-table shows that in 1891 the males exceeded the females in the ages under 5, but the females preponderated in the periods up to 30 except in the period from 11—15. After 30 the males were in the majority up to 70 except in the five years from 45 to 50. The females outnumber the males most largely in the years from 15 to 30. It is not improbable that this is due to the understating of female ages.

It is difficult to say to what causes the excess of females in this class is to be attributed. In it are included not only the descendants of the Europeans, principally Portuguese and Dutch, who have made the Island their permanent home, but also the offspring of mixed marriages and of illicit connections between the white and coloured races. In the four years for which the figures are available it is found that there have been 707 male to 629 female births, and 126 male to 132 female deaths of children under five years of age. There has been, therefore, a natural increment in the male population. It is probable, however, that the registration returns are defective, for the result of illicit connections between the white and coloured races would generally not be recorded. It may be that the excess of females is due to emigration. There were in the Straits Settlements at the Census taking (which was not simultaneous with that in Ceylon) 158 male and 82 female Burghers enumerated whose birthplace was Ceylon. It is also to be noted that a small number of boys and youths are at school in Europe. The disproportion between the sexes would be in some degree reduced by the addition of these absentees: but I do not think that their numbers would be sufficient to materially affect the figures.

Of the Malays.

11. Of the 5,379 male and 4,754 female Malays, 87 males and 42 females were born out of Ceylon. The combination in 1871 of Malays and "Others" makes the figures of that period useless for purposes of comparison. In 1881 there were 531 and in 1891 533 males in every thousand. In the years over 10 and under 30 at both periods the females preponderate, but at all other age-periods the males are greatly in excess. According to the Registrar-General the male births in the last four years have largely outnumbered the female, but in both sexes the deaths have exceeded the births, reducing the males by 58 and the females by 39. In the quinquennial age-tables of 1881 the females preponderate at the age-periods "under 2" and between 15 and 30. In 1891 the females are in excess only at the two periods 15—20 and 20—25. In the Colombo, Kandy, and Trincomalee Districts the preponderance of the males is less heavy in 1891 than in 1881, but in Galle and Hambantota the excess is greater in 1891 than in 1881. There may possibly have been an inclination to exclude unmarried adult women, and the Malays as Mohammedans may have been reluctant to give accurate details as to their women; but it is noteworthy that the excess of males is shown equally in 1891 in the child ages below 11. It is certain that there is a very large mortality amongst women and girls of nubile age from the want of medical advice.

| | Number of Males in One Thousand of the Malay Population. | |
|---|---|---|
| | In 1881. | In 1891. |
| All ages | 533 | 531 |
| Under 10 | 520 | 517 |
| „ 20 | 480 | 496 |
| „ 30 | 483 | 485 |
| „ 40 | 566 | 556 |
| „ 50 | 582 | 586 |
| „ 60 | 707 | 667 |
| „ 70 | 745 | 729 |

Of the Tamils.

12. The Tamils numbered 723,853 persons, of whom 396,115 were males and 327,738 were females, there being 547 males to 453 females in every thousand. Of these, 488,896 were returned as born in Ceylon, of whom 248,326 were males, in the proportion of 508 males to 492 females. Of those born elsewhere, there were 629 males to 371 females. The inclusion in the Tamil population of this alien element had the effect of making the males preponderate in every age-period, but as will be observed from the following statement the preponderance has gradually grown smaller:—

| | Proportion of Males in One Thousand of the Tamil Population. | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 1871. | 1881. | 1891. |
| All ages | 559 | 554 | 547 |
| Under 10 | 513 | 509 | 507 |
| „ 20 | 547 | 525 | 534 |
| „ 30 | 584 | 574 | 549 |
| „ 40 | 612 | 631 | 611 |
| „ 50 | 582 | 576 | 579 |
| „ 60 | 590 | 594 | 583 |
| Over 60 | 579 | 584 | 587 |

The decrease in the number of males is a consequence of diminished immigration.

In all the Provinces but the Northern and Eastern the proportion of the sexes is so much affected by immigration that it appears to be unnecessary to devote further space to showing that in all these Provinces the male population exceeds the female consequent on the influx of adult males as immigrants.

Of the Tamils in the Northern and Eastern Provinces.

13. In the Jaffna District of the Northern Province there are but two strangers in every thousand of the Tamils. The conditions are, therefore, not affected by immigration, and the migratory character of the people at once shows itself in the preponderance of females at all ages over 10 and under 50. The figures show an increasing excess of females in the population:—

| | Number of Males in One Thousand of the Tamils of Jaffna. | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 1871. | 1881. | 1891. |
| All ages | 498 | 495 | 492 |
| Under 10 | 508 | 505 | 506 |
| „ 20 | 483 | 487 | 488 |
| „ 30 | 460 | 467 | 469 |
| „ 40 | 498 | 505 | 489 |
| „ 50 | 512 | 481 | 474 |
| „ 60 | 531 | 522 | 506 |

The cause of this is doubtless emigration. Of the males born in Jaffna, 74 in every thousand are living elsewhere in Ceylon, but this does not represent the whole of the emigration. In the Straits Settlements there were 557 Ceylon-born Tamil males, and it is known that there are a large number in various parts of India.

In the Mannár District there were 574 males to 426 females, but 13 per cent. of the people were India-born, and there were 1,904 immigrants from Jaffna, of whom 1,497 were men.

In Mullaittívu there were 537 males to 463 females, of whom 624 men and 435 women were born in Jaffna.

In Vavuniya the proportion was 574 males to 426 females. There were 808 males and 388 females from India and Jaffna.

In all these Districts the male births exceed the female.

In the Batticaloa District of the Eastern Province the India-born constitute 10 in every thousand. The proportion of males is 517 to 483 females.

In the Trincomalee District there are 558 males to 442 females, but 37 in every thousand are India-born, and the immigrants from Jaffna constitute 26 per cent. of the Tamil population in the proportion of 616 men to 384 women.

The proportion of males in every thousand of the population at each decennial age-period at the three Census takings in the Batticaloa District is shown in the following statement :—

| | 1871. | 1881. | 1891. |
|---|---|---|---|
| All ages | ... 521 | ... 520 | ... 517 |
| Under 10 | ... 518 | ... 520 | ... 518 |
| „ 20 | ... 454 | ... 469 | ... 468 |
| „ 30 | ... 521 | ... 504 | ... 504 |
| „ 40 | ... 575 | ... 572 | ... 563 |
| „ 50 | ... 555 | ... 541 | ... 537 |
| „ 60 | ... 622 | ... 612 | ... 577 |

At all three enumerations of the people the males have preponderated, except in the age-period "over 10 and under 20." The preponderance of males appears to be gradually diminishing.

Of the Moormen.

14. Of the Moorman population there were numbered 197,166 persons, including 109,170 males and 87,996 females. Of the males 82 and of the females 95 in a hundred were born in Ceylon, and of these the proportion of males to females was 517 to 483. In the alien population the proportion was 809 to 191.

In the Kalutara District the females predominate, except in the age-periods "under 10" and "over 50," the adult males having emigrated elsewhere to the extent of 29 per cent. of the males born in the District.

In Puttalam and Chilaw the very considerable excess of males points to defective enumeration.

In the Mannár District one-fifth of the males were India-born immigrants, there being 758 males to 56 females. If these be excluded, the females preponderate in the ratio of 506 to 494 males. In both 1871 and 1881 the females were in excess in the age-periods between 10 and 30.

In Batticaloa the preponderance of the males has been reduced from 510 to 501. The females appear to have predominated at all three enumerations in the age-periods between 10 and 30. It was suspected in 1881 that there had been intentional omission of females from enumeration, and the decrease in the number of males in the age-periods over 30 appears to justify the suspicion. The subject had the special attention of the Government Agent in 1891.

In Trincomalee there is an increase in the proportion of males, which is not justified by immigration.

The following statement gives the figures to which I have referred :—

Comparative Table of the Number of Males in a Thousand of the Moorish Population at each Decennial Period.

| | Year. | All Ages. | 10— | 20— | 30— | 40— | 50— | 60— | Upwards of 60. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Kalutara District ... | 1871 | 486 | 539 | 407 | 370 | 423 | 479 | 645 | 567 |
| | 1881 | 496 | 552 | 411 | 356 | 451 | 485 | 630 | 628 |
| | 1891 | 472 | 535 | 385 | 394 | 428 | 423 | 625 | 571 |
| Puttalam and Chilaw Districts ... | 1871 | 549 | 525 | 508 | 505 | 614 | 623 | 662 | 655 |
| | 1881 | 555 | 537 | 516 | 540 | 580 | 611 | 685 | 678 |
| | 1891 | 560 | 556 | 509 | 547 | 627 | 556 | 648 | 681 |
| Mannár District ... | 1871 | 516 | 538 | 466 | 448 | 572 | 563 | 553 | 543 |
| | 1881 | 510 | 519 | 463 | 487 | 553 | 529 | 551 | 620 |
| | 1891 | 556 | 510 | 505 | 594 | 558 | 598 | 604 | 520 |
| Batticaloa District ... | 1871 | 507 | 528 | 412 | 470 | 537 | 545 | 613 | 568 |
| | 1881 | 510 | 527 | 416 | 495 | 543 | 544 | 592 | 612 |
| | 1891 | 501 | 516 | 435 | 493 | 524 | 536 | 547 | 539 |
| Trincomalee District ... | 1871 | 554 | 545 | 505 | 559 | 610 | 592 | 613 | 703 |
| | 1881 | 532 | 512 | 496 | 523 | 625 | 549 | 684 | 627 |
| | 1891 | 535 | 515 | 489 | 523 | 636 | 565 | 688 | 635 |

Existing causes which may affect the proportion of the sexes.

15. It must be remembered in any discussion of the proportion of the sexes in Ceylon that early marriages are the rule in all classes of the population, the women marrying as soon as they reach nubile age and the men before they attain fullest maturity. The result of such marriages is a lack of vitality in the progeny. A very large proportion of the population is out of the reach of efficient medical advice, while to a not inconsiderable portion of the women social laws prohibit recourse to that which may be at their very doors. The methods of treatment of women at and after childbirth are opposed to the laws of modern science, provoking difficulties and bringing on enfeebling disorders interrupting female life. There are large numbers of the people to whom a sufficiency of wholesome food is unknown, whose existence is maintained under conditions of which the influence on the proportion of the sexes has not yet been scientifically studied. The subject is one full of importance and deserving extended inquiry.

## CHAPTER VI.

### EDUCATION.

**Number of persons able to read and write in the Island—Race, religion, and sex : 1881 and 1891 compared—Distribution of those able to read and write compared—Increase in the male population able to read and write—Increase in the female population—Comparison of races—Comparative position of the Provinces—Table of education in the Sinhalese Districts—Comparison of Sinhalese Districts—Table of education in Tamil Districts—Comparison of the Tamil Districts—Table as to the Moor population—Observations on the Moor population—Of the Malay population—Of those under instruction—Proportion at each age under instruction—Comparison of the Provinces as to children under instruction—Comparison of children under instruction in the Districts—Comparison of Christian and non-Christian communities—Statistics of schools.**

Number of persons able to read and write in the Island.

THE total number of persons in the Island returned as able to read and write is 30 per cent. of the male and 4·3 per cent. of the female population. This is an increase of 5 4 in the males and 1·8 in the females.

Race, religion, and sex : 1881 and 1891 compared.

2. The following statement shows the number and sex of each race and religion able to read and write in 1881 and 1891 :—

| | Males. | | Females. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1881. | 1891. | 1881. | 1891. |
| Europeans | 84 8 | 89·5 | 74·2 | 85 |
| Burghers | 59·5 | 63·7 | 49 6 | 58 |
| Sinhalese | 25·1 | 31 | 2·2 | 4 |
| Tamils | 21·4 | 25·5 | 2 | 3 |
| Moors | 26·3 | 29·7 | 1·4 | 1 |
| Malays | 40·2 | 46·1 | 3·3 | 6 |
| Veddahs | 2·9 | 2·6 | ·3 | — |
| Others | 25 1 | 31·9 | 3·1 | 6 |
| Buddhists | 23·5 | 28·7 | 1·4 | 2·6 |
| Hindus | 19·8 | 23·3 | 1 | 1·8 |
| Mohammedans | 26·9 | 30·5 | 1·5 | 1·5 |
| Christians | 41·4 | 50 | 13·6 | 21·7 |
| Others | 13·4 | 36·7 | 1·8 | 7 |

Distribution of those able to read and write compared.

3. Of the total number of those able to read and write the following is the distribution in each year according to religion :—

| | Males. | | Females. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1881 | 1891. | 1881. | 1891. |
| Buddhists | 57·7 | 59·3 | 34·1 | 38 |
| Hindus | 18 | 16·5 | 8 | 8 |
| Mohammedans | 8·3 | 7·5 | 4 | 2 |
| Christians | 16 | 16·5 | 53·5 | 51 |
| Others | ·05 | ·03 | ·04 | ·02 |

It will be observed that a considerable increase is shown in the number of educated Buddhists of both sexes. This result is probably attributable to "the great religious and educational activity aroused among the members of the Buddhist community," to which the Director of Public Instruction refers as "one of the most interesting facts in the educational history of the Southern Province." It may be added, however, that this activity is not confined to the Southern Province, but has extended to the Western and Central Provinces, where it has manifested itself in the popular observance of religious festivals and in the establishment of schools.

Increase in the male population able to read and write.

4. Of the male population the number of those able to read and write has increased in all races but the Veddahs, and in all religions. The Sinhalese and Malays each show an increase of 5·9, the Tamils of 4·1, and the Moors of 3·4. Of the Christians the increase is 8·6, of the Buddhists 5·2, of the Mohammedans 3·6, and of the Hindus 3·5.

Increase in the female population.

5. In the female population there is an increase except in the Moors, where there is a decrease of ·4, and the Mohammedans, where there has been no movement. In the Malays the increase is 2·7, in the Sinhalese 1·8, and in the Tamils 1 per cent.; in the Christians 8·1, the Buddhists 1·2, and the Hindus ·8 per cent.

Comparison of races.

6. Of the native races the Malays hold the first place in both sexes as they did in 1881. They owe this position to the teaching which the founders of the Malay colony in Ceylon obtained in the regimental schools. It is remarkable that the women should be so far in advance of their fellow-religionists—the Moor women—but the high state of education amongst the men has accentuated the want of it in their partners; and I understand that the Malay girls, although they leave school at a very early age, continue, when they reach the period at which their appearance in public is forbidden, to receive instruction from their fathers. Next to the Malays in point of education are the Sinhalese. Of the whole population 31 per cent. of the males and 4 per cent. of the females are instructed, but of

the Christian Siṅhalese the proportions are 51·7 and 20·2 to 28·9 and 2·6. In the male population the Moors come before the Tamils, but the ratio of female education is considerably higher in the Tamils. Of the Tamil male population 41·7 of the Christians and 23 per cent. of the non-Christians are able to read and write. Of the females the proportion is 13·4 in the Christians to 1·8 in the non-Christians.

Comparative position of the Provinces.

7. It will be observed from the statement which follows that the Northern Province holds the first position in the number of its educated male population, but it is closely followed by the Western Province. The North-Western Province, which was first in 1881, is now third in order. Uva takes the lowest place, preceded by the Central Province and Sabaragamuwa. The Western Province has the largest proportion of females able to read and write, and is followed at a long interval by the Northern and Southern Provinces. The smallest number of educated women is in the North-Central Province, Uva and Sabaragamuwa coming next. There has been a large increase in all Provinces in the number of persons able to read and write :—

Comparative Statement of Persons able to Read and Write according to Provinces.

| | | Males. | Females. | Persons. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| CEYLON | 1881 | 27· | 2·9 | 15·7 |
| | 1891 | 33·2 | 5·04 | 19·9 |
| Western Province | 1881 | 32·1 | 6·01 | 19·6 |
| | 1891 | 40·6 | 10·5 | 26·3 |
| Province of Sabaragamuwa | 1881 | 22·1 | ·9 | 12·5 |
| | 1891 | 27·8 | 1·4 | 15·9 |
| North-Western Province | 1881 | 32·3 | 1·8 | 18·2 |
| | 1891 | 36·3 | 3·1 | 21·2 |
| Central Province | 1881 | 21·4 | 2 1 | 13·08 |
| | 1891 | 26·1 | 3·03 | 15·8 |
| Province of Uva | 1881 | 17·6 | ·6 | 10·1 |
| | 1891 | 20·6 | 1·02 | 11·9 |
| North-Central Province | 1881 | 22·6 | ·2 | 12·2 |
| | 1891 | 29·4 | ·5 | 16·4 |
| Northern Province | 1881 | 30 2 | 2·6 | 16·4 |
| | 1891 | 41·3 | 4·4 | 23 |
| Eastern Province | 1881 | 25·6 | 1·8 | 14·3 |
| | 1891 | 30·1 | 3·1 | 17·2 |
| Southern Province | 1881 | 27·2 | 2·5 | 15·1 |
| | 1891 | 30·3 | 4·07 | 17·4 |

Table of education in Siṅhalese Districts.

8. The following table shows the progress of education amongst the Siṅhalese and the present position in each District :—

Proportion of Siṅhalese Persons able to Read and Write.

| | Males. | | Females. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1881. | 1891. | 1881. | 1891. |
| Municipality of Colombo | 38 | 42 | 10 | 15 |
| Colombo | 24·8 | 29 | 4 | 8 |
| Negombo | 35 | 41 | 3 | 5 |
| Kalutara | 29 | 37 | 4 | 8 |
| Ratnapura | 16·7 | 21 | ·6 | ·8 |
| Kégalla | 21 | 30 | ·6 | 1 |
| Kandy | 27 | 32 | 2 | 3 |
| Mátalé | 19 | 33 | ·8 | 2 |
| Nuwara Eliya | 28 | 34 | 1 | 2 |
| Uva | 18 | 19 | ·4 | ·5 |
| Kurunégala | 32 | 32 | 1 | 1 |
| Puttaḷam | 33 | 40 | 3 | 1 |
| Chilaw | | 45 | | 10 |
| North-Central Province | 22 | 29 | ·1 | ·4 |
| Batticaloa | 22 | 22 | ·6 | 1 |
| Trincomalee | 36 | 37 | 1 | 1 |
| Galle | 25 | 31 | 2 | 5 |
| Mátara | 17·5 | 19 | ·8 | 1 |
| Hambantoṭa | 16 | 17 | ·5 | ·4 |

Comparison of Siṅhalese Districts.

9. In all the Districts the number of persons able to read and write has increased. The most considerable increase is shown in the Mátalé and Kégalla Districts. The Chilaw District occupies the first position as to male, and the Municipality of Colombo as to female education. Hambantota, Uva, and Mátara have the smallest number of male Siṅhalese able to read and write ; and Hambantota, the North-Central Province, and Uva are lowest in the number of instructed females. Hambantota and Uva have the smallest number of educated Siṅhalese of both sexes.

Table of education in Tamil Districts.

10. A similar comparative statement follows dealing with the Tamil population :—

Proportion of Tamil Persons able to Read and Write.

| | Males. | | Females. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1881. | 1891. | 1881. | 1891. |
| Municipality of Colombo | 28 | 34 | ·5 | 10 |
| Colombo | 13 | 20 | 1 | 3 |
| Negombo | 31 | 40 | 7 | 16 |
| Kalutara | 17 | 15 | 3 | 3 |

| | Males. | | Females. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1881. | 1891. | 1881. | 1891. |
| Ratnapura ... | 11 | 17 | ·9 | 2 |
| Kégalla ... | 13 | 11 | ·3 | 1 |
| Kandy ... | 11 | 12 | ·8 | 1 |
| Mátalé ... | 9 | 12 | ·5 | ·7 |
| Nuwara Eliya | 9 | 11 | ·5 | ·6 |
| Uva ... | 10 | 13 | ·3 | ·5 |
| Kurunégala | 14 | 20 | ·7 | 2 |
| Puttalam ... | 24 | 36 | 3 | 6 |
| Chilaw ... | | 30 | | 4 |
| North-Central Province | 20 | 24 | ·9 | 1 |
| Jaffna ... | 29 | 35 | 2 | 4 |
| Vavuniya ... | 35 | 35 | ·2 | ·8 |
| Mullaittivu... | 35 | 37 | 4 | 3 |
| Mannár .. | 33 | 39 | 5 | 4 |
| Batticaloa ... | 28 | 31 | 2 | 3 |
| Trincomalee | 38 | 42 | 4 | 7 |
| Galle ... | 32 | 30 | 6 | 7 |
| Mátara ... | 20 | 14 | 1 | ·4 |
| Hambantota | 18 | 28 | ·5 | 3 |

Comparison of the Tamil Districts.

11. Of the Tamil Districts Trincomalee has the highest ratio to its population of persons able to read and write of both sexes. It is very much in advance of the sister-District of Batticaloa, in which there has been little increase in the ten years in the number of educated males. In the Northern Province, in the Jaffna District there has been a large addition to the educated of both sexes, but both Mullaittívu and Mannár, while showing an improvement as to the education of males, have gone back in the matter of female education. In all the other Districts of the Island Tamils are strangers, and bring their education with them. The uneducated condition of the immigrants from India is shown in the figures for the Central Province, Uva, and Sabaragamuwa.

Table as to the Moor population.

12. The proportion of the Moor population able to read and write is given in the following statement :—

| | Males. | | Females. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1881. | 1891. | 1881. | 1891. |
| Municipality of Colombo ... | 22 | 28 | 2 | 3 |
| Colombo ... | 38 | 46 | 4 | 1 |
| Negombo ... | 41 | 46 | 1 | 1 |
| Kalutara ... | 32 | 35 | 3 | ·2 |
| Ratnapura ... | 51 | 53 | ·5 | 1 |
| Kégalla ... | 29 | 38 | ·5 | ·7 |
| Kandy ... | 28 | 31 | 2 | 1 |
| Mátalé ... | 26 | 32 | 2 | ·4 |
| Nuwara Eliya | 38 | 41 | ·8 | ·5 |
| Uva ... | 32 | 32 | ·5 | ·2 |
| Kurunégala... | 26 | 28 | ·2 | ·3 |
| Puttalam ... | 30 | 30 | 2 | ·9 |
| Chilaw ... | | 40 | | ·6 |
| North-Central Province | 21 | 23 | ·1 | ·1 |
| Jaffna ... | 42 | 51 | 3 | 1 |
| Vavuniya ... | 23 | 31 | 1·5 | ·6 |
| Mullaittívu ... | 32 | 33 | 1·02 | — |
| Mannár ... | 25 | 32 | 2 | ·4 |
| Batticaloa ... | 17 | 18 | ·1 | ·2 |
| Trincomalee | 24 | 30 | ·6 | 7 |
| Galle ... | 33 | 36 | 3 | 5 |
| Mátara ... | 27 | 34 | 1·4 | 1·5 |
| Hambantota | 19 | 24 | ·3 | 3 |

Observations on the Moor population.

13. The ratio of educated to uneducated of the male sex is higher in the Moor population than in either Sinhalese or Tamils, but the proportion of females able to read and write is low, and, if the figures are reliable, does not appear to be increasing. In all the Districts the number of males able to read and write has increased, but in the majority of the Districts the number of instructed females has decreased. There is, however, a substantial improvement in the Galle and Hambantota Districts and in the Municipality of Colombo. Batticaloa takes the lowest place in respect of the education of the male population, preceded by the North-Central Province and Hambantota. The difference in the proportion of instructed persons between the Trincomalee and Batticaloa Districts is again remarkable.

Of the Malay population.

14. The only Districts having any considerable Malay population are the Colombo Municipality and Trincomalee. There are, however, colonies of some size in Puttalam, Hambantota, Kandy, Uva, Chilaw, and Mátalé. The following figures show the progress and condition of education in these Districts :—

Malays able to Read and Write.

| | Males. | | Females. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1881. | 1891. | 1881. | 1891. |
| Colombo Municipality | 36 | 46 | 2 | 7 |
| Trincomalee | 28 | 26 | 1·2 | 1 |
| Puttalam ... | 47 | 49 | 11 | 14 |
| Chilaw ... | | 60 | | 1 |
| Kandy ... | 44 | 50 | 3 | 6 |
| Uva ... | 54 | 47 | 5 | 5 |
| Hambantota | 30 | 33 | — | 1 |
| Mátalé ... | 53 | 59 | 6 | 8 |

It will be seen that in the Trincomalee and Uva Districts there has been a decrease in the number of educated males, and in the Chilaw District it would appear that the number of educated females has considerably diminished. The ratio of females educated is, as I have before pointed out, very considerably higher in the Malay than in the Moor community.

Of those under instruction.

15. Of the children of 15 years of age and under, 11·6 per cent. of the boys and 3·7 per cent. of the girls are under instruction. These numbers are distributed as follows :—

| | Males. | Females. |
|---|---|---|
| Europeans ... ... ... | 24 | 16 |
| Burghers ... ... ... | 42 | 34·5 |
| Sinhalese ... ... ... | 11 | 4 |
| Tamils ... ... ... | 12 | 3 |
| Moors ... ... ... | 11 | 3·6 |
| Malays ... ... ... | 20 | 3·3 |
| Others ... ... ... | 11 | 3·6 |

It will be observed that the Malays stand first of the native races in the number of their boys at school, but the Sinhalese have the largest proportion of girls under instruction.

Proportion at each age under instruction

16. The following table shows the proportion of the children at each age-period under instruction :—

| | Males. | | | Females. | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 5 | 10 | 15 | 5 | 10 | 15 |
| Europeans ... ... ... | 5 | 34 | 59 | 2·5 | 25 | 33 |
| Burghers ... ... ... | 12 | 60 | 63 | 10 | 52 | 47 |
| Sinhalese ... ... ... | 2 | 18 | 17 | ·8 | 7 | 4 |
| Tamils ... ... ... | 3 | 22 | 13 | 1 | 5 | 3 |
| Moors ... ... ... | 4 | 19 | 10 | 2 | 7 | 1·4 |
| Malays ... ... ... | 4 | 28 | 33 | 2 | 5 | 3 |

The Burghers show the largest number of both sexes at all ages, while of the principal native races the Malays have the largest proportion of boys of each age. The Moors and Malays send more of their girls under 10 to school, but the Sinhalese keep the largest number there longest.

Comparison of the Provinces as to children under instruction

17. The Western Province has the largest number of children of both sexes under instruction, and is followed by the Northern and Eastern Provinces, which, however, are far behind it in the instruction of their girls. Uva is the most backward.

Table showing the proportion in every 100 of Children under instruction of each Sex in each Province.

| | Males. | Females. |
|---|---|---|
| Western Province ... | 19·6 | 8·5 |
| Province of Sabaragamuwa ... | 6·2 | ·3 |
| North-Western Province ... | 6·1 | 2 |
| Central Province ... | 8·4 | 1·4 |
| Province of Uva ... | 2 | ·4 |
| North-Central Province ... | 3 | 1 in 1,569 |
| Northern Province ... | 16·5 | 3 |
| Eastern Province ... | 13 | 3 |
| Southern Province ... | 9 | 3 |

Comparison of children under instruction in the Districts

18. The following statement shows the proportion of children of 15 and under of each sex under instruction in each of the Revenue Districts :—

| | Males. | Females. |
|---|---|---|
| Colombo Municipality ... | 21·6 | 12·8 |
| Colombo District ... ... | 21·5 | 6·9 |
| Negombo ... ... | 15·5 | 5 |
| Kalutara ... ... | 18 | 7·9 |
| Ratnapura ... ... | 8 | ·6 |
| Kégalla ... ... | 4·8 | ·1 |
| Kurunégala ... ... | 3 | ·3 |
| Puttalam ... ... | 17·9 | 8 |
| Chilaw ... ... | 14 | 6 |
| Kandy ... ... | 7·7 | 1·7 |
| Mátalé ... ... | 12 | ·7 |
| Nuwara Eliya ... ... | 7 | 1 |
| Jaffna ... ... | 17 | 3 |
| Mannár ... ... | 12 | 2 |
| Mullaittívu ... ... | 19 | 2·8 |
| Vavuniya ... ... | 8 | 1 in 201 |
| Batticaloa ... ... | 11 | 2·6 |
| Trincomalee ... ... | 20·6 | 4 |
| Galle ... ... | 13 | 5 |
| Mátara ... ... | 8 | 2 |
| Hambantota ... ... | 2 | ·1 |

Comparison of Christian and non-Christian communities.

19. The much larger proportion of persons able to read and write in the Christian than in the non-Christian population is worthy of remark, and is strong testimony to the educational influences of the Christian religions. This influence is particularly felt in the female population, in which the proportion of educated persons is 22·8 in the Sinhalese and 14·3 in the Tamil Christian population, as compared with 4·4 and 2·03 in the non-Christian Sinhalese and Tamil communities.

A movement in the direction of female education has recently been made amongst the Mohammedans under auspices which guarantee its success, and the Buddhist community has established girls' schools under efficient management.

Comparative Statement of Persons, Christian and non-Christian, able to Read and Write.

| | Year. | Males. | | | | Females. | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Sinhalese. | | Tamils. | | Sinhalese. | | Tamils. | |
| | | Christians. | Non-Christians. | Christians. | Non-Christians. | Christians. | Non-Christians. | Christians. | Non-Christians. |
| Ceylon ... ... | 1881 | 44·2 | 27 | 35·8 | 19·9 | 12·6 | 1·7 | 9·2 | 1·05 |
| | 1891 | 54·2 | 32·6 | 44 1 | 26·5 | 22·8 | 4·4 | 14·3 | 2·03 |
| Western Province ... | 1881 | 42·5 | 29 6 | 38 7 | 21·5 | 12·9 | 3·1 | 11·3 | 2·1 |
| | 1891 | 52·7 | 38·4 | 46·7 | 26·3 | 22·9 | 6·5 | 19·7 | 4·4 |
| Province of Sabaragamuwa... | 1881 | 57·9 | 21·7 | 29·9 | 10·8 | 17·3 | ·7 | 8·8 | ·3 |
| | 1891 | 68·3 | 28·3 | 34·1 | 12 | 26·4 | 1·07 | 8·2 | ·8 |
| North-Western Province ... | 1881 | 39·9 | 32·5 | 33·7 | 16 5 | 7·1 | ·9 | 5·2 | 1·2 |
| | 1891 | 51·2 | 34·7 | 44·1 | 23·03 | 16·5 | 1 | 9·4 | 1·2 |
| Central Province ... | 1881 | 63 2 | 27·1 | 28·7 | 9·3 | 24·6 | 1·4 | 5·6 | ·4 |
| | 1891 | 69·4 | 33·8 | 31·1 | 10·9 | 39·1 | 2·1 | 7·2 | ·4 |
| Province of Uva ... | 1881 | 70·4 | 18·4 | 28 8 | 9·4 | 23·2 | ·3 | 4·5 | ·1 |
| | 1891 | 72·08 | 20·5 | 31·4 | 13·5 | 30·2 | ·5 | 6·2 | ·4 |
| North-Central Province ... | 1881 | 68·9 | 22·7 | 40·6 | 19·3 | 17·6 | ·09 | 1·6 | ·9 |
| | 1891 | 59 4 | 30·4 | 39·9 | 23·9 | 20 2 | ·4 | 5·3 | ·8 |
| Northern Province ... | 1881 | 42·2 | 32·9 | 36·5 | 29·04 | 33·3 | — | 9·4 | 1·3 |
| | 1891 | 53·2 | 41·3 | 47·3 | 40·4 | 23·4 | ·2 | 13·9 | 2·8 |
| Eastern Province ... | 1881 | 48·7 | 23·4 | 44·3 | 28·9 | 30 3 | ·4 | 14·02 | 1·4 |
| | 1891 | 67·3 | 24·2 | 55·8 | 33·8 | 31·8 | ·4 | 23·6 | 2·7 |
| Southern Province ... | 1881 | 68·9 | 26·5 | 42·7 | 24·09 | 41·6 | 1·9 | 14·8 | 1·3 |
| | 1891 | 74·2 | 29·6 | 42·7 | 23·4 | 56·5 | 3·4 | 24·6 | 1 1 |

Statistics of schools.

20. In connection with what I have written on the subject of education, the following statements, which the courtesy of the Director of Public Instruction enables me to supply, possess considerable interest. The schools of the Island are divided into three classes—*i. e.*, those which are supported by Government, those which are assisted with grants from Government, and those which have no such assistance. Of Government schools in 1881 there were 398, or one to 6,934 of the people, as compared with one to every 6,899 of the people in 1890. In 1881 there was one aided school to every 3,289 persons, and in 1890 one to every 3,057 persons. In 1881 there was one unaided school to every 4,279 persons, and in 1890 one to every 1,149 persons. There was one school to every 1,466 persons in 1881, and one to every 745 persons in 1890. It will be observed that the number of Government schools has not increased in the same proportion as those maintained otherwise, but during the past ten years the Government has gradually closed its "English" schools, leaving to private enterprise, assisted by grants, the instruction in the higher branches of education of those who are able to pay for it. The result of this policy is that 97 per cent. of the schools maintained by Government are vernacular schools.

The number of Government and aided schools in every thousand square miles in 1881 and 1890 is given in the following table:—

| | Western Province.* | North-Western Province. | Central Province.† | North-Central Province. | Northern Province. | Eastern Province. | Southern Province. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1881 ... | 164 | 19 | 17 | 3 | 85 | 26 | 60 |
| 1890‡ ... | 180 | 24 | 28 | 4 | 98 | 26 | 65 |

* Includes Sabaragamuwa. † Includes Uva.
‡ 1890.—Western Province 368; Sabaragamuwa 38; Central Province 57; Uva 8.

The proportion of persons in each Province to one such school at the two periods is shown below:—

| 1881. | | 1890. | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Western Province ... | 1,634 | Western Province ... | 1,444 |
| | | Province of Sabaragamuwa... | 3,543 |
| North-Western Province | 4,972 | ... ... | 4,508 |
| Central Province ... | 6,802 | Central Province ... | 3,595 |
| | | Province of Uva ... | 6,633 |
| North-Central Province | 5,512 | ... ... | 4,431 |
| Northern Province ... | 1,054 | ... ... | 970 |
| Eastern Province ... | 1,192 | ... ... | 1,387 |
| Southern Province ... | 3,361 | ... ... | 3,524 |

The information at my disposal does not admit of my giving for 1881 the details which I have prepared as to the number of schools in 1890 :—

1890.

| | Number of Schools of all classes in 1,000 square miles. | Number of the Population to a School. | Number of Population to to a Government School. | Number of Population to an Aided School. | Number of Population to an Unaided School. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Western Province ... | 655 | 813 | 3,546 | 2,436 | 1,860 |
| Central Province ... | 196 | 1,052 | 7,908 | 6,590 | 1,487 |
| Northern Province ... | 133 | 716 | 319,296 | 973 | 2,729 |
| Southern Province ... | 286 | 798 | 8,593 | 5,973 | 1,031 |
| Eastern Province ... | 45 | 820 | 11,419 | 1,579 | 2,006 |
| North-Western Province ... | 249 | 429 | 16,003 | 6,276 | 474 |
| North-Central Province ... | 41 | 454 | 6,848 | 12,555 | 506 |
| Province of Uva ... | 61 | 821 | 15,920 | 11,371 | 937 |
| Province of Sabaragamuwa ... | 158 | 859 | 5,278 | 10,776 | 1,134 |

This statement shows that the schools are closest together in the Western Province, and most distant from each other in the North-Central Province. The largest number of schools to the population is in the North-Western and North-Central Provinces. The smallest number of Government schools was in the Northern Province, where there was only one for the whole population, and the largest number in the Western Province and Sabaragamuwa. Of aided schools the smallest number was in the North-Central Province and the largest in the Northern Province. Of unaided schools the largest number was in the North-Western and North-Central Provinces and the smallest in the Northern Province. The explanation of these figures is that the unaided schools are the pansala schools, which teach little more than the A B C of Sinhalese, and undergo no Government inspection. The aided schools are the schools of the various Christian religions receiving grants-in-aid from the State, and being periodically inspected by Government Inspectors.

## CHAPTER VII.

### RELIGIONS.

**Number of Buddhists—Of the Hindus—Of the Christians—Of the Mohammedans—Proportion of each religion at each period compared—Proportion of Buddhists—Of Hindus—Of Mohammedans—Of Christians—Christians in Sinhalese Districts—In Tamil Districts—Comparative table of religious condition of Sinhalese and Tamils—Distribution of Christian population—Comparative statement of Christians in each Province—Desire to distinguish the denominations of Christians—Of the Roman Catholics.**

Number of Buddhists.

THE national religion of Ceylon is Buddhism, and the professors of that faith numbered in 1891 1,877,043 persons, an excess of 178,973 persons over 1881. Of the Buddhists 1,859,861 persons were Sinhalese and 15,861 were Tamils. The Sinhalese have increased by 10·33 per cent. in the male and 10·55 in the female sex, the rate of increase being rather lower than the rate of increase of the population. The Tamils have increased by 3,048 persons. To the Burgher or Eurasian Buddhists there was an addition of 30 males and 32 females. These are probably the illegitimate offspring of Sinhalese women. Of the Europeans there was one male and one female Buddhist, there being none of this nationality in 1881.

Of the Hindus

2. The number of Hindus was something under one-third of the number of Buddhists. They numbered 615,932 persons in 1891 against 593,630 in 1881. Of the whole 613,024 were Tamils. There were no European Hindus. There were 107 Sinhalese against 72 in 1881, and six Burghers or Eurasians. A decrease in the number of Veddah Hindus is accounted for by the inclusion of the Tamil-speaking Veddahs in the Tamil population.

Of the Christians.

3. The Christian community has grown from 267,977 to 302,127, the increase in the male population being 12·8 and in the female 12·7. The increase in the number of Burgher and Eurasian Christians is 18·4 per cent., being something lower than the rate of increase in the population. The deficiency is accounted for by the increase in the number of Burgher Buddhists. The number of Sinhalese Christians was 180,926 as against 162,270 in 1881, the increase being 11·82 in the males and 11·14 in the females, the increase in the Sinhalese population of the Island being 10·5. The Tamils have added 12,185 to their numbers, having risen from 82,220 in 1881 to 94,405 in 1891. In 1881 3 Moormen and 32 Malays were counted as Christians. The Malays have decreased from 32 to 12, while the number of Moormen has remained stationary.

Of the Mohammedans.

4. There is an increase of 14,220 in the number of Mohammedans. A female has taken the place of the one European male believer in Mohamet. The Eurasians have fallen from 4 to 1, and the Sinhalese increased from 71 to 206, the number of each sex being equal. The Tamil Mohammedans have decreased from 715 to 508.

Proportion of each religion at each period compared.

5. The proportions of each religion of each sex in 1881 and 1891 are as follows :—

| | Males. | | Females. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1881. | 1891. | 1881. | 1891. |
| Buddhists ... | 60·4 | 61·6 | 62·7 | 63·3 |
| Hindus ... | 22·3 | 21 | 20 5 | 19·7 |
| Mohammedans ... | 7 6 | 7 4 | 6 7 | 6·7 |
| Christians* ... | 9·5 | 9·9 | 9·9 | 10·2 |
| Others ... | ·1 | ·03 | ·07 | ·02 |

Proportion of Buddhists.

6. The highest proportion of Buddhists is found in the three Districts of the Southern Province: Hambantota having 96, Mátara 95, and Galle 92 in every hundred of the people. Kurunégala, Ratnapura, and Kalutara follow with 90, 89, and 84, respectively. The Colombo Municipality and Nuwara Eliya, of the Sinhalese Districts, have the lowest proportion of Buddhists.

Proportion of Hindus.

7. Of Hindus, Jaffna has the largest proportion, with 88, followed by Mullaittivu with 80. Of the Sinhalese Districts, Nuwara Eliya, Kandy, Mátalé, and Badulla have the largest number, owing to the large number of immigrant Tamils found in those Districts. Galle and Hambantota have the smallest number.

Proportion of Mohammedans.

8. The largest proportion of Mohammedans is found in the Batticaloa District, which is followed by Mannár, Trincomalee, and the Colombo Municipality. The smallest number is in the Jaffna District, where there is in every hundred of the population only one Mohammedan.

Proportion of Christians.

9. Of Christians, the Mannár, Puttalam (including Chilaw), and Negombo Districts have the largest proportion, being followed by the Colombo Municipality and the Colombo District. In Mannár and Negombo the proportion in the population has decreased, but in the Puttalam District there is an increase. The smallest number is found in the Southern Province, where in the Mátara and Hambantota Districts there are but five in every thousand of the male inhabitants,

* The percentage of Christians in the total population in India is ·79—Madras · British Territory, 2·43; Feudatory States, 19·31; Coorg, 1·96; Lower Burmah, 2·4; Bengal, British Territory, ·27; Bombay, British Territory, ·94.

and the proportion in the females of the Hambantoṭa District is lower still. Seeing that the maritime Districts of the Western and North-Western Provinces and of the Northern Province are those in which the number of Christians is largest, it is remarkable that the Southern Province should have maintained on its sea-coast its adherence to Buddhism.

Proportion of each religion of each sex in each District.

10. The result of an analysis of the figures will be found in the following table, which sets out the proportion of each religion of each sex in every District in 1881 and 1891 :—

Comparative Table of the Proportions of the Population of each Religion according to Districts.

| | Males. | | | | | | | | Females. | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Buddhists | | Hindus. | | Moham-medans. | | Christians | | Buddhists | | Hindus. | | Moham-medans. | | Christians | |
| | 1881 | 1891 | 1881 | 1891 | 1881 | 1891 | 1881 | 1891 | 1881 | 1891 | 1881 | 1891 | 1881 | 1891 | 1881 | 1891 |
| Colombo Municipality ... | 25 | 31 | 16 | 12 | 26 | 25 | 32 | 32 | 28 | 34 | 10 | 7 | 23 | 21 | 38 | 37 |
| Colombo District ... | 78 | 79 | 2 | 1·6 | 2 | 2 | 18 | 17 | 77 | 78 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 21 | 20 |
| Negombo do. ... | 58 | 62 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 36 | 33 | 58 | 61 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 38 | 36 |
| Kalutara do. ... | 84 | 84 | 1 | 2 | 8 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 84 | 84 | ·4 | 1 | 8 | 8 | 7 | 7 |
| Ratnapura do. ... | 87 | 89 | 8 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 90 | 93 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Kégalla do. ... | 89 | 78 | 4 | 14 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 92 | 82 | 3 | 11 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 2 |
| Kurunégala do. ... | 90 | 90 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 92 | 92 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 2 |
| Puttalam do. } Chilaw do. ... | 34 | 35 | 10 | 9 | 17 | 14 | 39 | 42 | 36 | 35 | 8 | 6 | 16 | 14 | 40 | 44 |
| Kandy do. ... | 50 | 51 | 35 | 34 | 9 | 8 | 5 | 6 | 57 | 56 | 29 | 30 | 8 | 7 | 5 | 6 |
| Mátalé do. ... | 57 | 65 | 31 | 23 | 8 | 8 | 4 | 4 | 64 | 70 | 26 | 20 | 7 | 7 | 3 | 3 |
| Nuwara Eliya do. ... | 33 | 33 | 58 | 57 | 2 | 2 | 7 | 7 | 38 | 37 | 55 | 53 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 7 |
| Uva ... ... | 66 | 69 | 26 | 23 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 72 | 74 | 23 | 20 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 2 |
| North-Central Province ... | 79 | 77 | 8 | 9 | 12 | 13 | 1 | 1 | 83 | 82 | 5 | 6 | 11 | 11 | 1 | 1 |
| Jaffna District ... | — | — | 89 | 88 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 10 | — | — | 89 | 88 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 11 |
| Mannár do. ... | ·4 | 1 | 17 | 21 | 30 | 30 | 52 | 48 | — | — | 11 | 11 | 32 | 34 | 57 | 54 |
| Mullaittivu do. ... | — | — | 81 | 80 | 5 | 6 | 14 | 14 | — | — | 81 | 79 | 6 | 6 | 13 | 15 |
| Vavuniya do. ... | 12 | 13 | 68 | 66 | 9 | 9 | 11 | 11 | 13 | 13 | 66 | 68 | 9 | 9 | 11 | 10 |
| Batticaloa do. ... | 5 | 6 | 55 | 54 | 35 | 36 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 55 | 53 | 36 | 38 | 4 | 4 |
| Trincomalee do. ... | 4 | 4 | 58 | 58 | 28 | 27 | 10 | 11 | 3 | 3 | 58 | 57 | 28 | 29 | 11 | 11 |
| Galle do. ... | 92 | 92 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 93 | 93 | ·2 | ·4 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 2 |
| Mátara do. ... | 95 | 95 | 1 | 1·5 | 3 | 3 | 1 | ·5 | 95 | 95 | ·3 | ·7 | 3·5 | 3 | 1 | ·7 |
| Hambantoṭa do. ... | 96 | 96 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 3 | ·5 | ·5 | 97 | 97 | ·4 | ·5 | 2·5 | 3 | ·3 | ·3 |

Christians in the Siṅhalese Districts.

11. Of the Siṅhalese Provinces, the Western Province has the largest proportion of Christians, but in both sexes there is a decrease in the numbers, and a proportionate increase in the number of Buddhists. In the North-Western Province there is an increase in the Christians of both sexes, and a decrease in the number of Buddhists, but the Christians are almost confined to the Chilaw and Puttalam Districts, Kurunégala having something less than three Christians in every hundred of its people. The proportion of Christians in Sabaragamuwa is something under two in a hundred persons, but this is an increase as compared with 1881. In the Central Province there is a very small change, there being a small increase in the number of female Christians. In Uva the proportion is lower than in Sabaragamuwa, but there has been a slight increase. In the North-Central Province there are seven Christian men and three Christian women in every thousand of the Siṅhalese. In the Southern Province there are six in every thousand of each sex. While, however, there is in the Southern Province a decrease, in the North-Central there is a decided increase.

Christians in the Tamil Districts.

12. Of the Tamil Provinces, the Northern has the largest proportion of Christians, the ratio having risen in the decade. In the Eastern Province the Christians have also increased in numbers. Of the non-Tamil districts, the Western and North-Western Provinces have the largest number of Tamil Christians.

Comparative table of the religious condition of Siṅhalese and Tamils.

13. The following table shows the proportion of the Siṅhalese who were Christians and Buddhists, and the proportion of Tamils who were Christians, Buddhists, and Hindus, in 1881 and 1891 :—

Proportion of Siṅhalese and Tamils who are Christians, &c.

| Province. | Males. | | | | | | | | | | Females. | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Siṅhalese. | | | | Tamils. | | | | | | Siṅhalese. | | | | Tamils. | | | | | |
| | Christians. | | Buddhists | | Christians | | Buddhists | | Hindus. | | Christians | | Buddhists. | | Christians | | Buddhists. | | Hindus. | |
| | 1881. | 1891. | 1881. | 1891. | 1881 | 1891. | 1881. | 1891. | 1881. | 1891 | 1881. | 1891. | 1881. | 1891. | 1881. | 1891. | 1881. | 1891. | 1881. | 1891. |
| Western ... | 20·3 | 18·7 | 79·6 | 81·2 | 32 | 35·6 | 13·2 | 16 5 | 53·8 | 47·6 | 22·05 | 20·5 | 77·9 | 79·4 | 41·4 | 45·6 | 11·3 | 14·6 | 46 4 | 39·4 |
| Sabaragamuwa... | 1·4 | 1·7 | 98·5 | 98·2 | 6·2 | 7·1 | 4·4 | 3·2 | 88 3 | 89·3 | ·9 | 1·1 | 99 | 98·8 | 5·2 | 7 | 3·6 | 2·5 | 89·9 | 90·2 |
| North-Western ... | 11·6 | 13·9 | 88·3 | 86 | 28·8 | 33·3 | 4·4 | 8·5 | 66 | 57·7 | 10·9 | 13·2 | 88·9 | 86·7 | 33·1 | 37 | 3·5 | 8·4 | 62 8 | 54·2 |
| Central ... | 3·3 | 3·3 | 96·6 | 96·6 | 6·3 | 7·6 | 2·3 | 1·9 | 90·8 | 90·3 | 2·4 | 2·5 | 97·4 | 97·4 | 6·5 | 7·9 | 2·2 | 1·7 | 90·9 | 90·2 |
| Uva ... | 1·3 | 1·6 | 98·6 | 98·2 | 4 | 4·5 | 1·7 | 4·4 | 93·6 | 90·8 | ·5 | ·7 | 99·4 | 99·2 | 4·1 | 4·3 | 1·2 | 3·2 | 94 | 92·2 |
| North-Central ... | ·2 | ·7 | 99·7 | 99·2 | 7·6 | 7·5 | 2·5 | 4·8 | 89 6 | 86·8 | ·06 | ·3 | 99·9 | 99·6 | 10·8 | 9·5 | 1·8 | 5·6 | 87·2 | 84·3 |
| Northern ... | 30·6 | 39·5 | 69 | 60·3 | 13·1 | 13·8 | ·01 | — | 86·8 | 86·1 | 1·9 | 10·7 | 97·6 | 88·8 | 13·5 | 14 | ·006 | — | 86·4 | 85·9 |
| Eastern ... | 3·4 | 5·4 | 96·4 | 94·1 | 7·09 | 7·6 | ·005 | — | 92·8 | 92·2 | 1·2 | 2·2 | 98·6 | 97·4 | 7·2 | 7·5 | ·005 | — | 92·7 | 92·4 |
| Southern ... | ·7 | ·6 | 99·2 | 99·3 | 15·3 | 13·6 | 11·7 | 8·3 | 66·7 | 77·2 | ·6 | ·6 | 99·3 | 99·3 | 20·7 | 17·4 | 11·1 | 7 | 60·8 | 74·8 |

Distribution of the Christian population.

14. The Christian population is by no means evenly distributed over the Island. Indeed, speaking broadly, Christianity may be said to be confined, as regards the indigenous population, to the Western, North-Western, and Northern Provinces; and in the Western and North-Western Provinces it is the sea-coast where its adherents are principally found. In the Alutkúru Kóralé South of the Colombo District 48 per cent. of the people are Christians, while in the districts immediately adjoining, the Héwágam and Siyané Kóralés, the proportion is under 8. In the Negombo District, in the Alutkúru Kóralé North there are 35 Christians, and in the Hápitigam kóralé which adjoins it less than three in every hundred persons. In the North-Western Province, in the Puttalam and Chilaw Districts 43 per cent. of the people were Christians, as against less than three in Kurunégala. There are Christians, it is true, in the Districts removed from the sea-board, but in the Central and North-Central Provinces and in Uva the majority of the Christians are to be found in the ranks of the Tamil immigrants.

Comparative statement of Christians in each Province.

15. The statement which follows gives the number of Christians in each Province, and the proportions of Siṉhalese and Tamils in the Christian population, and enables a comparison to be made between the Provinces as to the proportion of the Christian and general population contained in each. It will be observed that while the Western Province contains very little more than a quarter of the entire population of the Island, it has considerably more than one-half of the Christians. The Southern Province, on the other hand, which contains nearly one-sixth of the people of the Island, has less than one-fiftieth of the Christians :—

| | Number of Christians. | Proportion of Christian Population in the Province. | Proportion of entire Population in the Province. | Proportion of Christians who are | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | Siṉhalese. | Tamils. |
| Western Province ... | 160,490 | 53·1 | 25·3 | 79 | 12 |
| Province of Sabaragamuwa ... | 5,890 | 1·9 | 8·6 | 56 | 34 |
| North-Western Province ... | 45,269 | 15 | 10·6 | 83 | 15 |
| Central Province ... | 27,674 | 9·1 | 15·8 | 27 | 53 |
| Province of Uva ... | 3,899 | 1·3 | 5·3 | 36 | 42 |
| North-Central Province ... | 947 | ·3 | 2·5 | 35 | 56 |
| Northern Province ... | 43,872 | 14·5 | 10·6 | 1 | 96 |
| Eastern Province ... | 8,274 | 2·7 | 4·9 | 4 | 79 |
| Southern Province ... | 5,812 | 1·9 | 16·3 | 50 | 13 |

Desire to distinguish the denominations of Christians.

16. It was intended in this report to record the numbers of the chief denominations of Christianity, but the rule requiring the householder to state the particular religious belief of the person whose name was entered on the schedule was so generally not observed that I found that it would be impossible to record the number of any but the Roman Catholics. It is due to the Archbishop of Colombo to say that this result is to be attributed to the personal interest which he took in the matter, enjoining his people by monitions in his churches as well as by notices to compliance with the requirements of the law. It would have been possible to divide the Christians into Roman Catholics and Protestants, but this division was objected to by some members of the Church of England, and there would not have been a place for the sect of Independent Catholics. It was therefore decided to deal with the Christians as in 1881, supplying the separate numbers only of the Roman Catholics.

Of the Roman Catholics.

17. Of the Christians of Ceylon, of every thousand 815 were Roman Catholics. In the Southern and North-Central Provinces only, in which the proportion was found to be very small, were the Roman Catholics in a minority. The proportion of Roman Catholics in 100 Christians was as follows in the Provinces :—

| | |
|---|---|
| Western Province ... ... ... | 81 |
| Province of Sabaragamuwa ... ... | 68 |
| North-Western Province ... ... | 95 |
| Central Province ... ... ... ... | 67 |
| Province of Uva ... ... ... ... | 63 |
| North-Central Province ... ... | 49 |
| Northern Province... ... ... | 87 |
| Eastern Province ... ... ... | 81 |
| Southern Province... ... ... | 36 |

The North-Western Province has the largest proportion of Roman Catholics, but these are found in the Puttalam and Chilaw Districts, in each of which they constitute 97 per cent. of the Christians, the rate in the Kurunégala District being 80 per cent. Next to the North-Western is the Northern, Jaffna having 86 per cent. to Mullaittívu's 95. After the Northern comes the Western Province, the Negombo District leading with 90 per cent. The Eastern Province follows, Trincomalee having 92 per cent. and Batticaloa 75. In the other Provinces the proportion of Roman Catholics in the Christian community is equally remarkable. The following statement shows the proportion of Roman Catholics in each District, and the proportion of Siṉhalese and Tamils in the Roman Catholics. It would have been interesting had I been able to supply similar details of other Christian

denominations, but it is satisfactory that it is with that denomination which is numerically far the strongest that I have been able to deal :—

| District. | Proportion of Roman Catholics in 100 Christians. | | Proportion of Roman Catholics who are | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Sinhalese. | | Tamils. | |
| | Males. | Females. | Males. | Females. | Males. | Females. |
| Colombo Municipality ... | 71·5 | 72 | 63 | 68·5 | 22·5 | 15 |
| Colombo District ... | 80 | 80 | 97 | 98 | 2 | 1 |
| Negombo ... | 90 | 90 | 75 | 75 | 25 | 24 |
| Kalutara ... | 87 | 89 | 94·5 | 96 | 4 | 2 |
| Ratnapura ... | 71 | 69 | 74·5 | 66·5 | 21 | 27 |
| Kégalla ... | 67 | 67 | 53 | 52 | 43 | 45 |
| Kurunégala ... | 80 | 78 | 84 | 82 | 13 | 13 |
| Puttalam ... | 97 | 97 | 42 | 28 | 55 | 69 |
| Chilaw ... | 97 | 98 | 92·5 | 94 | 7 | 5 |
| Kandy ... | 66 | 66 | 28 | 27 | 62 | 62 |
| Mátalé ... | 70 | 75 | 48 | 49 | 46 | 45 |
| Nuwara Eliya ... | 70 | 69·5 | 21 | 16·5 | 74 | 78 |
| Uva ... | 64 | 62 | 45 | 27·5 | 49 | 65 |
| North-Central Province | 54 | 41 | 46 | 37 | 47 | 54 |
| Jaffna ... | 86 | 86 | — | — | 98 | 99 |
| Mannár ... | 88 | 89 | 7 | — | 93 | 99 |
| Mullaittívu ... | 95 | 94 | 7 | — | 87 | 93·5 |
| Vavuniya ... | 92 | 93 | 9 | 7 | 90 | 93 |
| Batticaloa ... | 76 | 75 | 7 | — | 77 | 82 |
| Trincomalee ... | 92 | 91·5 | 4 | 2·5 | 84 | 85 |
| Galle ... | 42 | 39 | 49 | 53·5 | 31 | 26·5 |
| Mátara ... | 24 | 22 | 33 | 41 | 43 | 33 |
| Hambantota ... | 36 | 29 | 35 | 37 | 28 | 27 |

## CHAPTER VIII.

### THE INDIA-BORN POPULATION.

The number at the three decades—Statistics of 1881 unreliable—Composition of the India-born—The distribution of the India-born—Proportion to the population of each District—The nationalities of the India-born—Their religions—Their occupations—The number of women, and of children under 14 in each class—Comparison of the Tamils and Moormen—Observations on the numbers in each occupation.

**The number at the three decades**

THERE were 171,342 males and 93,238 females enumerated in 1891 who assigned India as their birthplace. In 1881 the number was 276,788, of whom 171,823 were males and 104,965 females, showing a decrease in the decade of 481 males and 11,727 females. In 1871 the number of India-born was stated as 193,377, but the number of each sex was not given. The proportions in the population have varied from 8 in 100 in 1871 to 10 in 1881 and 9 in 1891.

**Statistics of 1881 unreliable.**

2. I entered in 1881 at some length into the reasons which induced me then to think that the returns for that year were not reliable, and no good purpose will be served by a comparison of the figures for the two decades.

In 1891 the Census schedule contained a column for birthplace, and I have no cause to doubt the general accuracy of the information given.

**Composition of the India-born**

3. Of the entire population of Ceylon 879 in 10,000 were India-born: of the males 1,075 and of the females 659. In every thousand there were 887 Tamils, 93 Moormen, and 17 "Others"; there being in the Tamils 59, in the Moormen 24, and in the "Others" 36 women to every hundred men. A small number of Burghers, Europeans, Malays, and Sinhalese make up the total number.

**The distribution of the India-born.**

4. They were thus distributed:—

| | Of 100 of the Males. | Females. |
|---|---|---|
| Municipality of Colombo ... | 10·9 | 7·2 |
| Western Province (excluding Municipality) ... ... | 5 | 3·3 |
| Province of Sabaragamuwa ... | 8·4 | 9·2 |
| North-Western Province ... | 4·3 | 2·9 |
| Central Province ... ... | 54·8 | 62 |
| Province of Uva ... ... | 10·5 | 11·7 |
| North-Central Province ... | 1·3 | 1 |
| Northern Province ... ... | 2 | 1 |
| Eastern Province ... ... | 1 | ·45 |
| Southern Province ... ... | 1 5 | 1 1 |

On "estates" were enumerated 62 per cent. of the males and 74 per cent. of the females.

**Proportion to the population of each District.**

5. The proportion of the population of each District India-born was as follows:—

| | Percentage of the Population of each District India-born. |
|---|---|
| Municipality of Colombo ... ... ... | 20 |
| District of Colombo ... ... ... | 2 |
| Do. Negombo ... ... ... | 2 |
| Do. Kalutara ... ... ... | 2 |
| Do. Ratnapura ... ... ... | 5 |
| Do. Kégalla ... ... ... | 12 |
| Do. Kurunégala ... ... ... | 2 |
| Do. Puttalam ... ... ... | 9 |
| Do. Chilaw ... ... ... | 4 |
| Do Kandy ... ... ... | 29 |
| Do. Mátalé ... ... ... | 18 |
| Do. Nuwara Eliya ... ... ... | 49 |
| Province of Uva ... ... ... | 18 |
| North-Central Province ... ... ... | 4 |
| District of Jaffna ... ... ... | ·3 |
| Do. Mannár ... ... ... | 12·5 |
| Do. Mullaittivu ... ... ... | 1 |
| Do. Vavuniya ... ... ... | 5 |
| Do. Batticaloa ... ... ... | ·9 |
| Do. Trincomalee ... ... ... | 4 |
| Do. Galle ... ... ... | ·8 |
| Do. Mátara ... ... ... | ·7 |
| Do. Hambantota .. ... ... | ·5 |

**The nationalities, India-born.**

6. Of the nationalities there were returned as India-born the following proportions in one hundred:—

| | Of Persons. | Of Males. | Of Females. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Europeans ... | 3·93 ... | 3·79 ... | 4·18 |
| Burghers ... | 1·5 ... | 2 19 ... | 85 |
| Tamils ... | 32 44 ... | 37·29 ... | 26·58 |
| Moors ... | 12·44 ... | 18·17 ... | 5·32 |
| Malays ... | ·4 ... | ·5 ... | ·3 |
| Others ... | 55 ... | 62·35 ... | 41·46 |

There were also included 24 Sinhalese, 13 men and 11 women.

Their religions.

7. Of the Europeans and Burghers, all were Christians but one Burgher male, who professed Buddhism. Of the Tamils, in one hundred males there were 8 Christians, 5 Buddhists, and 87 Hindus; and in one hundred females 7 Christians, 4 Buddhists, and 89 Hindus. Of the Moormen, all were Mohammedans but one male, a Buddhist.

Their occupations.

8. Of every thousand there were in the Professional Class 15; in the Domestic Class 36; in the Commercial Class 68; in the Agricultural Class 726; in the Industrial Class 104; and in the Indefinite 50.

The number of women, and of children under 14 in each class.

9. There were in each of these classes the following proportion of women, and of children under 14, in 1,000 of each class :—

| | Females. | Children under 14. |
|---|---|---|
| Professional Class ... | 309 | ... 101 |
| Domestic Class ... | 183 | ... 120 |
| Commercial Class ... | 143 | ... 124 |
| Agricultural Class ... | 394 | ... 110 |
| Industrial Class ... | 291 | ... 105 |
| Indefinite Class ... | 297 | ... 119 |

Comparison of the Tamils and Moormen.

10. It will be observed that the Tamils are for the most part engaged in agricultural and the Moormen in commercial pursuits. Of the Tamils and Moormen the following statement shows the percentage engaged in each class of occupation :—

| | Tamils. | Moormen. |
|---|---|---|
| Professional Class ... | 1 | ... 2 |
| Domestic Class ... | 3 | ... 5 |
| Commercial Class ... | 3 | ... 43 |
| Agricultural Class ... | 80 | ... 11 |
| Industrial Class ... | 9 | ... 22 |
| Indefinite Class ... | 4 | ... 17 |

Observations on the numbers in each occupation.

11. Of 2,806 males in the Professional Class, 1,494 were employed by Government, 214 were medical men, and 212 teachers.

Of the Domestic Class, nearly all are Tamils.

Of the Commercial Class, numbering 15,421 males, 11,131 are shopkeepers or otherwise engaged in trade, of whom 8,085 are Moormen. Of the boatmen, seamen, divers, and wharf coolies, the majority belong to this race.

Of the Agricultural Class, 113,960 out of 116,445 males are Tamils and agricultural labourers. The elephant dealers were Afghans on their way to the east coast and Mannár District, where they catch elephants for export to India. The camel-dealers and keepers were visitors. The climbers are employed in picking cocoanuts.

Of the 19,498 males of the Industrial Class, 13,957 were Tamils and 4,290 Moormen. Of the Tamils nearly 5,000 were road and railway labourers, 1,369 were engaged as "dhobies" washing clothes. Of the Moormen, the majority were traders and coolies.

Of the Indefinite Class there were 9,328 males, of whom 7,261 were general labourers, of whom 4,753 were Tamils and 2,250 Moors. Of beggars there were 661, of whom 402 were Tamils.

## CHAPTER IX.

### THE ESTATE POPULATION.

**Definition of the term "Estate"—Number of estates in 1881 and 1891 compared—Average number of persons on an estate—Proportions of Sinhalese and Tamils—Nationalities of estate population—Increase of the number of females—Proportion to the total population—Distribution of estate population—The ages of the estate population—The number of Sinhalese of each District—The good service done by the Planting Community.**

Definition of the term "Estate."

AN estate, under the provisions of the Census Ordinance, meant an extent of twenty acres or more, having ten or more resident coolies. Of these there were reported to be 1,758 in 1881 and 1,471 in 1891.

Number of estates in 1881 and 1891 compared.

2. In the Western Province there was an increase of 7 in the Colombo District and 23 in the Kalutara District, and a decrease of 30 in Negombo.

In Sabaragamuwa there was a decrease of 52 in Ratnapura and an increase of 39 in Kégalla.

In the North-Western Province there was an increase of 26 in the Puttalam-Chilaw Division and of 13 in Kurunégala.

In the Central Province there was a decrease of 163 in Kandy, 44 in Mátalé, and 42 in Nuwara Eliya.

In Uva there was a decrease of 71.

In the Northern Province (Jaffna District) there was a decrease of 17.

In Batticaloa there was an increase of 2, against a decrease of 6 in Trincomalee.

In the Southern Province there was an increase of 19 in Galle and of 9 in Mátara.

Average number of persons on an estate.

3. There were in 1881 117, and in 1891 178 persons to each estate. In 1871 there was an average of 124 persons on each of the 996 coffee estates.

Proportions of Sinhalese and Tamils.

4. At the three decades the following were the proportions of the Sinhalese and Tamils in the estate population :—

| | 1871. | | 1881. | | 1891. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Males. | Females. | Males. | Females. | Males. | Females. |
| Sinhalese | 4·87 | 1 | 4·07 | 1·54 | 8·46 | 5·76 |
| Tamils | 91·5 | 96 | 92·98 | 96·12 | 88·36 | 91·51 |

It will be observed that the Sinhalese remained almost stationary from 1871 to 1881, but largely increased in numbers between 1881 and 1891. The Tamils, on the other hand, increased from 1871 to 1881, but decreased between 1881 and 1891.

Nationalities of estate population.

5. In 1891 the estate population was thus distributed: in every hundred there were—

| | Of Males. | Of Females |
|---|---|---|
| Europeans | ·87 | ·55 |
| Burghers | ·41 | ·41 |
| Sinhalese | 8·46 | 5·76 |
| Tamils | 88·36 | 91·5 |
| Moors | 1·13 | ·97 |
| Malays | ·26 | ·31 |
| Others | ·49 | ·46 |

Increase of the number of females.

6. The proportion of females has gradually increased. The number to one hundred males has risen in the Sinhalese from 11 in 1871, to 25 in 1881, and to 47 in 1891; and in the Tamils from 54 in 1871, to 68 in 1881, and to 71 in 1891. The number of Burgher females has remained the same, but the number of Europeans has increased from 39 in 1881 to 44 in 1891, of Moors from 53 to 59; and of Malays from 71 to 80.

The general increase in the proportion of females to males is a welcome feature, betokening the well-being of the estate labourers.

Proportion to the total population.

7. Of the total population of Ceylon, 8·7 per cent. is the estate population. The proportion of the estate population to the total population of the Provinces is given below :—

| | |
|---|---|
| Western Province | 1 34 |
| Province of Sabaragamuwa | 10·83 |
| North-Western Province | 1·26 |
| Central Province | 38·55 |
| Province of Uva | 20·15 |
| Northern Province | ·16 |
| Eastern Province | ·05 |
| Southern Province | ·87 |

In the Western, North-Western, Eastern, Northern, and Southern Provinces there are large cocoanut and citronella estates, but upon each of these there is often not more than three or four persons resident. Such labour as is required comes from the neighbouring villages. These estates are not included here.

**Distribution of estate population.**

8. Of each hundred of the estate population Kandy takes 38, Nuwara Eliya 25, Uva 12, Kégalla 8, Mátalé 6, Ratnapura 2, and Kalutara 1½.

**The ages of the estate population.**

9. The greater part of the dwellers on estates are adults of both sexes. In every hundred of each sex the proportions were in 1891 as follow :—

| | Males. | Females. | | Males. | Females. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 10 and under ... | 19 | 27 | 40 and under . | 19 | 12 |
| 20 „ ... | 22 | 23 | 50 „ ... | 6 | 4 |
| 30 „ ... | 31 | 32 | | | |

It will be observed that in the ages under 30 the females predominate.

10. Of the Tamils of Ceylon, of the males nearly 35 and of the females nearly 30 in every hundred were counted on the estates, but of the Sinhalese only twelve of the males and six of the females in one thousand. It must however be noted that the number of Sinhalese enumerated is not a safe guide to the number of Sinhalese labourers employed on an estate. Sinhalese do not readily go into "lines," and the Sinhalese labour for the most part comes from the neighbouring villages. At the Census time, too, large numbers of the Sinhalese returned to their homes to be set down on their village schedules.

**The number of Sinhalese of each District.**

11. The number of Sinhalese contributed by each District to the estate population is given below :—

| Born in | Enumerated on Estates. Males. | Females. | Born in | Enumerated on Estates. Males. | Females. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Colombo ... | 2,609 | 763 | Nuwara Eliya ... | 561 | 542 |
| Negombo ... | 946 | 404 | Province of Uva | 693 | 473 |
| Kalutara ... | 912 | 231 | North - Central Province ... | 6 | — |
| Ratnapura ... | 400 | 290 | Jaffna ... | 3 | 1 |
| Kégalla ... | 386 | 188 | Trincomalee ... | 1 | — |
| Kurunégala ... | 148 | 68 | Galle ... | 2,168 | 500 |
| Puttalam ... | 13 | 17 | Mátara ... | 495 | 235 |
| Chilaw ... | 160 | 95 | Hambantota ... | 10 | — |
| Kandy ... | 2,085 | 1,556 | | | |
| Mátalé ... | 222 | 147 | | | |

The birthplace of one-tenth of the Sinhalese of each sex was not specified.

**The good service done by the Planting Community.**

12. The thanks of the Government are due to the Planters' Association of Ceylon, as well as to the District Associations, and to the managers and superintendents of estates, for assistance willingly and cordially given. Upon the managers and superintendents is thrown by law the responsibility of filling up the schedules, and it is proper that I should gratefully acknowledge the care and anxiety with which this responsibility was discharged. The work involved the expenditure of much time and trouble, but both were generously afforded; and the Government is indebted to the planters of all classes for their gratuitous aid.

## CHAPTER X.

### INFIRMITIES.

The number of the insane—Progressive decrease in numbers—Proportion of insane in the population—The nationalities of the insane—The sexes of the insane—Numbers in the Districts—The causes of insanity unknown—Of the blind—Decrease in numbers—Comparison of Districts—The ages of the blind—The number of deaf-mutes—Comparative tables of numbers of insane, blind, and deaf-mute according to Districts.

The number of the insane.

THERE were in the total population 2,806 persons returned as insane and imbecile, of whom 1,743 were males and 1,063 females. In the total population there was one insane in 1,072: in the males one in 914 and in the females one in 1,331. In England and Wales in the Census of 1881 there was one in every 318 males and one in every 298 females. In the Madras Presidency in 1881 the proportion was, of males one in 2,598 and of females one in 3,513; and in 1871, of males one in 2,047 and of females one in 2,399. In Ceylon, as in Madras, the proportion is higher in males than in females, which reverses the experience of European statistics.

Progressive decrease in numbers.

2. There has been a progressive decrease in the number of persons returned as insane. In the males this decrease is 10 per cent. and in the females 14 per cent. since 1871 :—

| Year. | Persons returned as Insane. Persons. | Males. | Females. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1871 ... | 3,319 | 1,929 | 1,390 |
| 1881 ... | 3,087 | 1,873 | 1,214 |
| 1891 ... | 2,806 | 1,743 | 1,063 |

Proportion of insane in the population.

3. The proportions in the population at the three periods were :—

| Year. | In the whole Population One in | In the Males One in | In the Females One in |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1871 ... | 723 | 663 | 805 |
| 1881 ... | 894 | 785 | 1,063 |
| 1891 ... | 1,072 | 914 | 1,331 |

The nationalities of the insane.

4. Comparing 1891 with 1881, there are in the Europeans, Sinhalese, and Moormen a decrease, and in the Burghers, Tamils, Malays, Veddahs, and "Others" an increase :—

Comparative Table of Persons insane in 1881 and 1891 according to Nationalities.

| | 1881. | | 1891. | | Increase. | | Decrease. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Males. | Females. | Males. | Females. | Males. | Females. | Males. | Females. |
| Europeans ... | 4 | 2 | 4 | — | — | — | — | 2 |
| Burghers ... | 18 | 11 | 17 | 14 | — | 3 | 1 | — |
| Sinhalese ... | 1,567 | 993 | 1,374 | 850 | — | — | 193 | 143 |
| Tamils ... | 168 | 153 | 231 | 151 | 63 | — | — | 2 |
| Moormen ... | 107 | 54 | 97 | 43 | — | — | 10 | 11 |
| Malays ... | 6 | — | 7 | 2 | 1 | 2 | — | — |
| Veddahs ... | — | — | 2 | — | 2 | — | — | — |
| Others ... | 3 | 1 | 11 | 3 | 8 | 2 | — | — |

The sexes of the insane.

5. The proportion of insane of each sex in each nationality in 1881 and in 1891 is shown in the table below. The details are not given in the Census Report for 1871 :—

| | Year. | Proportion to Population. One in | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | All Nationalities. | | Europeans | | Burghers. | | Sinhalese. | | Tamils. | | Moormen. | | Malays. | |
| | | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| Ceylon ... | 1881 | 785 | 1063 | 795 | 827 | 496 | 814 | 614 | 890 | 2265 | 2005 | 970 | 1495 | 790 | — |
| | 1891 | 914 | 1331 | 745 | — | 620 | 764 | 774 | 1151 | 1715 | 2170 | 1125 | 2046 | 768 | 2377 |

Numbers in the Districts.

6. In the Sinhalese Districts there is a decrease, except in the Colombo Municipality and in the North-Central Province.

In the North-Central Province the number has risen from 63 (35 males, 28 females) to 98 (65 males, 33 females). There is an addition of 30 male and 2 female Sinhalese and 1 male and 4 female Tamils.

In the Northern and in the Eastern Provinces there is a decrease in the number of insane Tamils.

In the Colombo Municipality the increase is from 336 to 530, the inmates of the Lunatic Asylum having risen in numbers from 226 to 384. It contained in 1881 7·3, and in 1891 13·6, of the total insane population of the Island.

The causes of insanity unknown.

7. Of the causes of insanity in Ceylon little or nothing appears to be known. The prevalence of melancholic cases is noted. Out of 91 cases admitted in 1890, 40 were of this type. In regard to most cases the cause of the attack is shrouded in mystery; in many cases no history is obtainable, and a good deal of what is obtained in other instances is worthless. (Administration Reports, 1890, A 13, by Dr. W. R. Kynsey, C M.G., P.C.M.O.)

Of the blind

8. Of the blind the males number 3,371, as against 3,543 in 1881 and 4,059 in 1871; and the females 2,265, as against 2,363 in 1881 and 2,663 in 1871. Of the total population one in 534 is blind, as compared with one in 467 in 1881 and one in 415 in 1871. In Madras in 1881 the proportion was one in 611 and in England one in 1,138.

Decrease in numbers

9. There has been a general decrease in the decade in the number of persons thus afflicted :—

| | Persons Blind in every 10,000 | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1881. | | 1891. | |
| | Males. | Females. | Males. | Females. |
| Burghers ... | 23 | 21 | 11 | 16 |
| Sinhalese ... | 30 | 21 | 25 | 18 |
| Tamils ... | 11 | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| Moormen ... | 21 | 19 | 21 | 16 |

At both periods the rates in the female population was lower than in the male.

Comparison of Districts.

10. The highest ratio is attained in the Ratnapura District, in which it was in 1891 one in 297 to one in 310 in 1881. Batticaloa comes next with one in 365, and Kégalla follows with one in 379. In 1881 Kégalla and Ratnapura had the largest number.

The ages of the blind.

11. Up to 30 years of age the proportion of blind in the sexes is almost equal, the males being rather in excess. After 30 the males again predominate, the proportions at each decennial period being as follows :—

| | Percentage in 100 Blind at each of the following Age-periods. | |
|---|---|---|
| | Males. | Females. |
| 10 and under ... ... | 17·4 ... | 17·6 |
| 20 „ ... ... | 17·5 ... | 15·4 |
| 30 „ ... ... | 15·9 ... | 17·1 |
| 40 „ ... ... | 13·9 ... | 13·8 |
| 50 „ ... ... | 10 ... | 11·4 |
| 60 „ ... ... | 10·5 ... | 11·4 |
| Over 60 ... ... | 14·5 ... | 12·9 |

In Sabaragamuwa the proportion of those under 40 is higher than the general rate for the Island, being as follows :—

| | Males. | Females. |
|---|---|---|
| 10 and under ... ... | 18·9 ... | 21·1 |
| 20 „ ... ... | 21·5 ... | 17·5 |
| 30 „ ... ... | 14·5 ... | 17·2 |
| 40 „ ... ... | 14·5 ... | 18·2 |

the proportion of females being considerably higher than of males. Unwholesome surroundings, ill-conditioned dwellings, and bad and insufficient food are probably the causes to which the unfortunate pre-eminence of Ratnapura may be assigned.

The number of deaf-mutes.

12. Of deaf-mutes there were 694, of whom 435 were males and 259 females, against 542, of whom 338 were males and 204 females, in 1881. The increase is in the Sinhalese population, in which the number has risen from 353 in 1881 to 495 in 1891, the increase being 46 per cent. in the males and 31 in the females. The greatest number in the population is found in the Nuwara Eliya District.

It is impossible to say to what causes the increase in the persons thus afflicted is attributable.

13. The following tables give the proportion to population of either sex of persons insane, blind, and deaf-mute in each of the Districts in 1881 and 1891 :—

Comparative tables of numbers of insane, blind, and deaf-mute according to Districts.

The Insane.

| | Year. | Proportion to Population. One in | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Sinhalese. | | Tamils. | | Moormen. | |
| | | Males. | Females. | Males. | Females. | Males. | Females. |
| Colombo Municipality ... | 1881 | 189 | 344 | 387 | 309 | 526 | 852 |
| | 1891 | 149 | 246 | 226 | 225 | 437 | 958 |
| Colombo District ... | 1881 | 407 | 785 | — | 1071 | 905 | — |
| | 1891 | 494 | 824 | 1462 | — | 651 | 1846* |
| Negombo do. ... | 1881 | 445 | 673 | 1074 | 1005 | 412 | — |
| | 1891 | 649 | 874 | 640 | 1189 | 878 | — |
| Kalutara do. ... | 1881 | 562 | 898 | — | — | 455 | 1299 |
| | 1891 | 936 | 1452 | — | — | 871 | 2267 |
| Ratnapura do. ... | 1881 | 726 | 989 | — | — | — | — |
| | 1891 | 869 | 1454 | 4227* | — | 1267* | — |
| Kégalla do. ... | 1881 | 923 | 783 | — | 1985* | 492 | 2195* |
| | 1891 | 1481 | 1836 | 4251 | 1409 | 903 | — |
| Kurunégala do. ... | 1881 | 768 | 1106 | 2297 | 2831* | — | 2025 |
| | 1891 | 1378 | 1929 | 3903* | 2343* | 5870* | 4337* |
| Puttalam do ... | 1881 | 390 | 650 | 2482 | 2521 | 694 | 1392 |
| | 1891 | 681 | 803 | 1310 | 2611 | 1693 | 1771 |
| Kandy do. ... | 1881 | 1092 | 1197 | 15666 | 4134 | 1491 | 4258 |
| | 1891 | 1570 | 1933 | 5044 | 3364 | 1460 | 8546* |
| Mátalé do. ... | 1881 | 969 | 1301 | 16180* | 10780* | 1799 | — |
| | 1891 | 3061 | 8394 | 10366* | 2504 | 1509 | 2148* |
| Nuwara Eliya do. ... | 1881 | 1324 | 1968 | 7155 | 11784 | 1055* | 371* |
| | 1891 | 2357 | 4344 | 19770 | 5342 | — | — |
| Province of Uva ... | 1881 | 735 | 1389 | 26167* | 5803 | 1018 | 399 |
| | 1891 | 1329 | 1959 | 21708* | 5033 | — | 1006 |
| North-Central Province ... | 1881 | 905 | 975 | 2926* | 1738* | 2111 | 3189* |
| | 1891 | 525 | 994 | 2034 | 471 | 2503 | — |
| Jaffna District ... | 1881 | — | — | 2057 | 2281 | — | — |
| | 1891 | — | — | 2022 | 3409 | — | 1425* |
| Mannár do. ... | 1881 | — | — | 3853 | 745 | — | 1625 |
| | 1891 | — | — | 1540 | 762 | — | 1169 |
| Mullaittívu do. ... | 1881 | — | — | 3842* | 639 | — | — |
| | 1891 | — | — | 1215 | 1572 | — | — |
| Vavuniya do ... | 1881 | 597* | 444* | — | 2598* | — | — |
| | 1891 | 681* | 118 | 3579* | 1330 | — | — |
| Batticaloa do. ... | 1881 | 463 | — | 1268 | 1465 | 1000 | 1659 |
| | 1891 | 926 | — | 1125 | 2584 | 1245 | 1720 |
| Trincomalee do ... | 1881 | — | — | 859 | 2219 | 1529 | 1343 |
| | 1891 | — | 426* | 1364 | 1892 | 3436* | 2990* |
| Galle do ... | 1881 | 718 | 901 | 1443* | — | 2679 | 1204 |
| | 1891 | 820 | 1529 | 1724* | — | 993 | 2309 |
| Mátara do. ... | 1881 | 903 | 901 | 777* | — | 2479* | 853 |
| | 1891 | 1061 | 1047 | — | — | 1374 | 2854* |
| Hambantota do. ... | 1881 | 691 | 1037 | — | — | 652* | — |
| | 1891 | 1173 | 1533 | — | — | 830* | — |

* One only in the whole population.

The Blind.

| | Year | Proportion to Population One in | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | All Nationalities. | | Europeans. | | Burghers. | | Sinhalese. | | Tamils. | | Moormen. | | Malays. | |
| | | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| Ceylon ... | 1881 | 415 | 546 | 3181* | — | 425 | 471 | 336 | 471 | 921 | 999 | 472 | 535 | 395 | 1039 |
| | 1891 | 473 | 624 | 2981* | — | 878 | 629 | 393 | 550 | 966 | 1008 | 485 | 638 | 538 | 4754* |

## The Blind—*contd.*

| | Year | Proportion to Population. One in | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Sinhalese | | Tamils. | | Moormen. | |
| | | Males | Females. | Males | Females. | Males. | Females. |
| Colombo Municipality ... | 1881 | 450 | 364 | 875 | 598 | 592 | 551 |
| | 1891 | 439 | 465 | 517 | 927 | 571 | 1916 |
| Colombo District ... | 1881 | 286 | 393 | 1483 | 714 | 905 | — |
| | 1891 | 341 | 506 | 1097 | 1219 | 407 | 923 |
| Negombo do. ... | 1881 | 367 | 655 | 537 | 502 | 1650* | 820* |
| | 1891 | 434 | 615 | 541 | 350 | 351 | 247 |
| Kalutara do. ... | 1881 | 308 | 414 | 665 | 608* | 398 | 812 |
| | 1891 | 392 | 508 | 1432 | 1588* | 508 | 1700 |
| Ratnapura do ... | 1881 | 252 | 343 | 1868 | 1707 | 311 | — |
| | 1891 | 247 | 324 | 4227* | 907 | 633 | — |
| Kegalla do. ... | 1881 | 225 | 307 | 3422* | 1985* | 369 | 219 |
| | 1891 | 293 | 375 | 1594 | 2818 | 516 | 552 |
| Kurunégala do ... | 1881 | 406 | 611 | 766 | — | 673 | 1350 |
| | 1891 | 473 | 740 | 651 | 781 | 978 | 620 |
| Puttalam do ... | 1881 | 374 | 415 | 438 | 388 | 386 | 795 |
| | 1891 | 534 | 525 | 605 | 1044 | 452 | 409 |
| Kandy do ... | 1881 | 307 | 388 | 2089 | 1333 | 537 | 774 |
| | 1891 | 310 | 474 | 2522 | 1325 | 377 | 777 |
| Mátalé do ... | 1881 | 312 | 412 | 2312 | 1198 | 899 | 776 |
| | 1891 | 340 | 420 | 740 | 1073 | 755 | 2148* |
| Nuwara Eliya do. ... | 1881 | 284 | 562 | 3577 | 3928 | 351 | — |
| | 1891 | 451 | 496 | 3595 | 2671 | 1361* | — |
| Province of Uva ... | 1881 | 381 | 568 | 2616 | 2487 | 582 | 499 |
| | 1891 | 453 | 637 | 1973 | 1678 | 959 | 2013 |
| North-Central Province ... | 1881 | 572 | 650 | 2926* | 579 | 469 | 266* |
| | 1891 | 517 | 679 | — | 588 | 1001 | 914 |
| Jaffna District ... | 1881 | — | — | 894 | 1140 | 276 | — |
| | 1891 | — | — | 1119 | 1319 | 406 | — |
| Mannár do ... | 1881 | — | — | 1101 | 745 | 423 | 361 |
| | 1891 | — | — | 1320 | 571 | 827 | 1169 |
| Mullaittívu do. ... | 1881 | — | — | 768 | 1065 | — | — |
| | 1891 | — | — | 1823 | 524 | — | 202* |
| Vavuniya do. ... | 1881 | — | 444* | 392 | 433 | — | — |
| | 1891 | — | — | 596 | 296 | 395* | — |
| Batticaloa do ... | 1881 | 556 | 1116 | 320 | 523 | 312 | 520 |
| | 1891 | 926 | 899 | 305 | 448 | 316 | 373 |
| Trincomalee do. ... | 1881 | 189 | — | 336 | 444 | 612 | 896 |
| | 1891 | 683* | — | 637 | 688 | 859 | — |
| Galle do ... | 1881 | 410 | 541 | 481 | 560* | 765 | 963 |
| | 1891 | 532 | 703 | — | — | 551 | 462 |
| Matara do ... | 1881 | 400 | 791 | — | — | 826 | 427 |
| | 1891 | 444 | 719 | 372 | — | 687 | 571 |
| Hambantota do. ... | 1881 | 461 | 706 | 500* | — | 652* | — |
| | 1891 | 459 | 963 | — | — | 830* | 356 |

* One only in the whole population.

## The Deaf-Mute.

| | Year | Proportion to Population. One in | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | All Nationalities. | | Europeans. | | Burghers | | Sinhalese | | Tamils. | | Moormen. | | Malays. | |
| | | M | F. | M | F. | M | F. | M | F | M | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| Ceylon ... | 1881 | 4348 | 6324 | — | — | 2232 | — | 4476 | 6407 | 3623 | 5112 | 7985 | 13456 | 4739* | — |
| | 1891 | 3663 | 5461 | — | — | 2107 | 5348 | 3388 | 5403 | 4001 | 6202 | 9097 | 6769 | 1798 | — |

## The Deaf-Mute—*contd.*

| | Year. | Proportion to Population. One in | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Siṉhalese. | | Tamils. | | Moormen. | |
| | | Males. | Females. | Males. | Females. | Males. | Females. |
| Colombo Municipality ... | 1881 | 3972 | 2559 | 3327 | 8968° | 7105 | — |
| | 1891 | 4450 | 4116 | 5343 | 8343° | 3712 | 2395 |
| Colombo District ... | 1881 | 4250 | 7300 | — | — | — | — |
| | 1891 | 3039 | 5585 | 4387° | 2437° | — | 1846* |
| Negombo do. ... | 1881 | 2300 | 4095 | 6448° | 5028° | — | — |
| | 1891 | 2156 | 4303 | — | 5944° | — | — |
| Kalutara do. ... | 1881 | 4214 | 7366 | — | — | 6379° | 3247 |
| | 1891 | 3371 | 5806 | — | — | — | — |
| Ratnapura do. ... | 1881 | 3265 | 4728 | 2802 | 1707 | — | — |
| | 1891 | 3591 | 3755 | — | 2722° | — | — |
| Kṓgalla do. ... | 1881 | 3876 | 10189 | 1711 | — | — | — |
| | 1891 | 5429 | 4744 | 1822 | 2818 | — | 2762° |
| Kurunégala do. ... | 1881 | 4179 | 4423 | 4594° | 1415 | 2695 | — |
| | 1891 | 2158 | 3784 | 3903° | 1171 | — | — |
| Puttaḷam do. ... | 1881 | 2808 | 3436 | 7448° | — | 1736 | 5568° |
| | 1891 | 3473 | 14447 | 1572 | 5222° | 2258 | — |
| Kandy do. ... | 1881 | 4094 | 12170 | 2724 | 3759 | — | 8517° |
| | 1891 | 4082 | 5800 | 2162 | 2187 | 11678° | — |
| Mátalé do ... | 1881 | 4686 | 6182 | 2023 | 10780° | — | — |
| | 1891 | 2296 | 3148 | — | 1878 | — | — |
| Nuwara Eliya do. ... | 1881 | 6619 | 2624 | 4472 | 2618 | — | — |
| | 1891 | 2357 | 1931 | 3080 | 2428 | — | — |
| Province of Uva ... | 1881 | 5085 | 6601 | 2379 | 5803 | — | — |
| | 1891 | 6794 | 4408 | 1973 | 5033 | 3835° | — |
| North-Central Province ... | 1881 | 7013 | 6338 | — | — | 4223° | 3189° |
| | 1891 | 2136 | 5566 | — | — | — | — |
| Jaffna District ... | 1881 | — | — | 4320 | 5752 | — | — |
| | 1891 | — | — | 7129 | 11648 | — | — |
| Mannár do. ... | 1881 | — | — | 3853 | — | — | — |
| | 1891 | — | — | 3080 | — | 4135° | 3508° |
| Mullaittívu do. ... | 1881 | — | — | 1921 | — | — | — |
| | 1891 | — | — | 1823 | — | — | — |
| Vavuniya do. ... | 1881 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | 1891 | - | — | — | 887 | — | — |
| Batticaloa do. ... | 1881 | | — | 5285 | 4186 | 6336 | — |
| | 1891 | — | — | 7197 | — | — | 11181 |
| Trincomalee do ... | 1881 | 567° | — | 3868 | — | — | 2687° |
| | 1891 | 683° | 142 | 9550° | — | — | 1495 |
| Galle do. ... | 1881 | 5746 | 8850 | 1443° | — | — | — |
| | 1891 | 3227 | 11722 | — | — | 2482 | 4619° |
| Mátara do. ... | 1881 | 24671 | 11872 | — | — | — | — |
| | 1891 | 9665 | 27567 | — | — | — | 2854* |
| Hambantoṭa do. ... | 1881 | 8986 | 8299 | — | — | — | — |
| | 1891 | 7429 | 6898 | — | — | — | — |

* One only in the whole population.

## CHAPTER XI.

### HOSPITALS AND PRISONS.

The number of patients—Distribution according to birthplace—The ages of patients—Their occupations—Statistics of the Medical Department—Distribution of hospitals and dispensaries—The number of prisoners—The nationality of the prisoners—Their birthplaces—Proportion to the population of each Province—Their distribution according to ages and education and religions—Juvenile offenders.

The number of patients

THE number of patients in hospitals and kindred institutions increased from 1,612 persons in 1881 to 2,228 persons in 1891, the males having risen from 1,170 to 1,548 and the females from 442 to 680.

The following comparative statement shows the proportion in 1,000 of each nationality at the two periods:—

| | Number in 1,000 of each Sex. | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1881. | | 1891. | |
| | Males | Females. | Males. | Females. |
| Europeans ... | 6·6 | 1·2 | 5·7 | 1·17 |
| Burghers ... | 3·6 | 1·3 | 5·12 | 2·43 |
| Sinhalese ... | 47 | ·18 | ·79 | ·43 |
| Tamils ... | 1·49 | ·79 | 1·31 | ·61 |
| Moormen ... | 49 | ·13 | ·82 | 3 |
| Malays ... | 2·53 | ·24 | 1·48 | — |
| Others ... | 4·78 | 2·6 | 2·77 | 1 |

The number of Europeans, Tamils, Malays, and "Others" has decreased, but there is a considerable increase in the number of Sinhalese, Burghers, and Moormen.

Distribution according to birthplace.

2. Of the Tamils, of both sexes, 16 per cent. came from Jaffna; and of the males 68 and of the females 62 per cent. from India.

Of the Sinhalese the distribution was as follows:—

| Birthplace. | Number in 100 Patients. | |
|---|---|---|
| | Males. | Females |
| Western Province ... | 41 | 46 |
| Province of Sabaragamuwa ... | 9 | 5 |
| North Western Province ... | 5 | 5 |
| Central Province ... ... | 13 | 16 |
| Province of Uva ... ... | 5 | 3 |
| North-Central Province ... | 2 | 1 |
| Southern Province ... ... | 20 | 16 |
| Unspecified ... ... | 4 | 8 |

The ages of patients.

3. The largest number of patients is found to be of the adult age-periods:—

| Age. | Distribution of Patients according to Age. | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1881. | | 1891. | |
| | Males. | Females. | Males. | Females. |
| 10 and under ... | 4 | 10 | 4 | 8 |
| 20 „ ... | 16 | 17 | 19 | 14 |
| 30 „ ... | 33 | 37 | 28 | 32 |
| 40 „ ... | 24 | 20 | 24 | 21 |
| 50 „ ... | 14 | 11 | 13 | 13 |
| 60 „ ... | 6 | 4 | 7 | 6 |
| Over 60 ... | 3 | 1 | 5 | 6 |

At the period under 10 and between 20 and 30 the females predominate at both periods.

Their occupations

4. Of the whole number of patients, 38 per cent. belonged to the Agricultural and 26 per cent. to the Indefinite Class, the greater number being cultivators, agricultural labourers, and general labourers.

Statistics of the Medical Department.

5. The courtesy of the Principal Civil Medical Officer (Dr. W. R. Kynsey, C.M.G.) enables me here to supply a comparative table of the greatest interest. It will be seen that in the decade the number of hospitals has more than doubled, the number of beds having increased by 50 per cent. The number of dispensaries—a manner of distributing medical relief peculiarly acceptable to the people—has increased from 48 to 180, and the number of persons treated from 110,831 to 400,720, while in 1891 there were 171, where in 1881 there were 74 medical officers.

## Statistics of the Medical Department—1881 and 1891.

| Provinces. | Number of Hospitals. | | Number of Beds. | | Average Daily Sick | | | | Total Average Daily Sick of both Males and Females | | Number of Dispensaries. | | Number of Persons treated at Outdoor Dispensaries. | | Number of Medical Officers permanently employed. | | Expenditure, inclusive of all Charges. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | Males. | | Females | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 1881 | 1891. | 1881. | 1891 | 1881. | 1891. | 1881. | 1891. | 1881. | 1891. | 1881. | 1891. | 1881. | 1891. | 1881 | 1891 | 1881. | 1891. |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Rs. | Rs. |
| Western Province ... | 8 | 7 | 613 | 719 | 321·24 | 395·03 | 94·25 | 133·95 | 415 49 | 528·98 | 12 | 26 | 43887 | 101292 | | | | |
| Province of Sabaragamuwa* ... | — | 7 | — | 218 | — | 132 30 | — | 48·46 | — | 180 76 | — | 12 | — | 37929 | | | | |
| North-Western Province ... | 3 | 5 | 176 | 262 | 109·10 | 101 50 | 22·70 | 32 61 | 131·80 | 134·11 | 5 | 17 | 16280 | 35670 | | | | |
| Central Province ... | 5 | 12 | 442 | 557 | 180·97 | 268 24 | 50·90 | 97 48 | 231·87 | 365 72 | 7 | 34 | 9554 | 80389 | | | | |
| Province of Uva† ... | — | 6 | — | 178 | — | 123·36 | — | 35·93 | — | 159·29 | — | 16 | — | 20546 | 74 | 171 | 510953·58 | 729075·86 |
| North-Central Province ... | 2 | 2 | 70 | 74 | 27 26 | 30·22 | 5·40 | 6·66 | 32·86 | 36·88 | 3 | 8 | 4000 | 6973 | | | | |
| Northern Province ... | 3 | 8 | 113 | 184 | 50 37 | 65·21 | 22·93 | 30·58 | 73 30 | 95·79 | 12 | 24 | 14424 | 29132 | | | | |
| Eastern Province ... | 2 | 3 | 67 | 86 | 34 25 | 39 37 | 8·61 | 9·97 | 42 86 | 49·34 | 3 | 12 | 8158 | 25921 | | | | |
| Southern Province ... | 4 | 5 | 220 | 230 | 80·09 | 87·14 | 29·23 | 31·90 | 109·32 | 119·04 | 6 | 31 | 14528 | 62868 | | | | |
| Total ... | 27 | 55 | 1701 | 2508 | 803 28 | 1242 37 | 234 02 | 427 54 | 1037·50 | 1669 91 | 48 | 180 | 110831 | 400720 | 74 | 171 | 510953·58 | 729075 86 |

* Included in 1881 in the Western Province.

† Included in 1881 in the Central Province

Distribution of hospitals and dispensaries.

6. The expenditure in 1881 was 18 cents and in 1891 24 cents for every person of the population. There were in 1891 22 hospitals and 71 dispensaries in every ten thousand square miles, and there was one hospital for every 54,687 persons and one dispensary for every 16,709 persons:—

| Provinces. | Number of Hospitals in 1,000 square miles. | Number of Dispensaries in 1,000 square miles. | Average Number of Persons to each Hospital. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Western Province ... | 5 ... | 18 ... | 108,933 |
| Province of Sabaragamuwa ... | 4 ... | 6 ... | 36,947 |
| North-Western Province ... | 2 ... | 6 ... | 64,014 |
| Central Province ... | 5 ... | 15 ... | 39,541 |
| Province of Uva ... | 2 ... | 5 ... | 26,534 |
| North-Central Province ... | ·5 ... | 2 ... | 37,667 |
| Northern Province ... | 2 ... | 7 ... | 39,912 |
| Eastern Province ... | ·7 ... | 3 ... | 49,481 |
| Southern Province ... | 2 ... | 14 ... | 97,960 |

The number of prisoners.

7. The number of prisoners increased from 2,620 persons in 1881 to 3,702 persons in 1891, of whom 3,659 were males and 43 females. There was an increase of 1,089 in the number of males and a decrease of 7 in the number of females.

The nationality of the prisoners.

8. Of these, 80 per cent. were Sinhalese, 13 per cent. Tamils, and 5 per cent. Moormen, against 72 per cent. Sinhalese, 17 Tamils, and 8 Moormen in 1881.

The proportion of prisoners of each sex in the total population of each sex of each nationality is shown below:—

| | 1881. One in | 1891. One in |
|---|---|---|
| Europeans ... | 795 males ... | 994 |
| Burghers ... | 496 males ... | 554 |
| Sinhalese ... | 518 males ... | 362 |
| | 22,671 females ... | 30,563 |
| Tamils ... | 853 males ... | 823 |
| | 34,084 females ... | 36,415 |
| Moormen ... | 524 males ... | 557 |
| | 40,369 females ... | 43,998 |
| Malays ... | 296 males ... | 316 |
| Others ... | — ... | 491 |

Their birthplaces.

9. Of the Tamils, 38 per cent. were India-born. Of the Sinhalese, of 100 of both sexes, 40 were born in the Western Province, 9 in Sabaragamuwa, 10 in the North-Western, 15 in the Central, 3 in Uva, and 22 in the Southern Province. Three in 1,000 came from the North-Central Province, and 5 gave Ceylon as their birthplace.

Proportion to the population of each Province.

10. Of Sinhalese, the proportion of prisoners to the population of each Province was, in the Western one in 550, Sabaragamuwa 831, North-Western 928, Central 546, Uva 1,358, North-Central 6,653, Southern 704.

Of the Tamils, the proportion was, in the Northern Province one in 2,254 and in the Eastern one in 1,636.

Their distribution according to ages and education and religions.

11. The distribution of the prisoners according to ages shows that the largest numbers are between 20 and 30 years of age, the females predominating under 20:—

| | Males. | Females. |
|---|---|---|
| 20 and under ... ... | 11 ... | 16 |
| 30 ... ... | 48 ... | 37 |
| 40 ... ... | 27 ... | 33 |
| 50 ... ... | 9 ... | 14 |
| 60 ... ... | 4 ... | — |
| Over 60 ... ... | 1 ... | — |

Of 100 of each nationality, the number able to read and write was, of the Sinhalese 45, of the Tamils 27, of the Moormen 34, of the Malays 23, and of the "Others" 64.

Of the Sinhalese, of the men 10 per cent. and of the women 16 per cent. professed Christianity.

In the Tamils the proportion was 13 and 33.

Juvenile offenders.

12. In 1881 I observed that there was no Juvenile Reformatory in Ceylon. Juvenile offenders are now under certain conditions sent to an Industrial School established by the Wesleyan Mission in the Province of Uva.

There were 26 juvenile offenders in this institution, of whom 15 were Sinhalese, 5 Tamils, 5 Moormen, and one European. The European, born at Galle, was a Christian between 11 and 15, and able to read and write.

Of the Sinhalese, 8 were born in Colombo, two in Negombo, and two in Galle, and one each at Kurunégala, Kalutara, and Kandy.

Five were able to read and write, of whom four were Christians out of a total of seven Christians.

Twelve were between 11 and 15, two below 11, and one over 15.

Of the Tamils, of whom three were Christians and one able to read and write, three were India-born, one was born in Kandy, and one in Jaffna.

Of the Moormen, who were all Mohammedans, and unable to read and write, two were born in Colombo, two in Galle, and one Trincomalee.

## CHAPTER XII.

### THE OCCUPATIONS OF THE PEOPLE.

The difficulties of tabulation of the Occupations of the people—Modification of system of classification—Differences between the system followed in 1881 and the present—Defects and advantages of the present—Difficulty of comparison of the figures of 1881 and 1891—The Professional Class—Principal contributors to the Professional Class—The Domestic Class—The Commercial Class—The Agricultural Class—The Industrial Class. The occupations maintaining each over 20,000—The Industrial occupations maintaining more than 5,000—Notes on some occupations—The Indefinite and Non-Productive Class—Description of accompanying tables—Of the Nationalities in each class—Proportion of nationalities in each class—Distribution according to Provinces.

The difficulties of tabulation of the occupations of the people.

THE tabulation of the occupations of the people is described by the writers of the General Report on the Census of England and Wales for 1881 as being "the most laborious, the most costly, and, after all, perhaps the least satisfactory part of the Census." The difficulties which attended the operation in London were not absent here, and more time and labour were expended on this part of the work than upon any other. It occupied the attention of the most intelligent of my clerks, and had the supervision of Mr. Ohlmus and the best of the checking staff, and the results are as accurate as they can be made, but no system of check could be devised which was altogether satisfactory. The labour of grouping together the many kinds of occupations was enormous, and consumed a great deal of time, delaying the rest of the work.

Modification of system of classification.

2. The system of classification pursued is that known as Dr. Farr's, but an important modification was adopted, which, although to my mind it makes the tables more useful, renders comparison between them and the results of the Census of 1881 so difficult as to be nearly impossible.

Differences between the system followed in 1881 and the present.

3. In 1881 it will be observed that "wives and women engaged in household duties," practically including all women without special employment, were contained in the Domestic Class. Children under 14 were included in the Indefinite or Non-Productive Class. The principle of this arrangement was that persons were entered as of the occupation or profession which they followed.

In 1891, however, a different system was adopted, and wives and children not having any special occupation contributing to their maintenance were taken to be of the occupation of the person upon whose labour they subsisted. What, therefore, the occupation tables show is not only the occupations of those persons who entered themselves of any specific occupation, but the means of subsistence of the whole population. Thus, under the heading "Carpenter" is entered not only the number of males practising this occupation, but the number of women and children subsisting on its proceeds.

Defects and advantages of the present.

4. The system has its defects, for where an occupation is followed by both the sexes it does not define the number of women who follow it separately from the number who merely subsist by it; and it has its absurdities, such as the inclusion of males under the heading "Midwife;" but under the other system there was no certain way of discovering what was the total number of persons dependent on any class of occupation, and it seemed more important that this should be ascertained than that the actual number of persons following an occupation or practising a profession should be recorded.

An improved system of tabulation, which should combine the advantages of both systems, would, I think, be possible.

Difficulty of comparison of the figures of 1881 and 1891.

5. This system having been adopted precludes any general comparison of the figures of 1891 with those of 1881. It will be found that in 1891 every class has increased, except the Domestic and the Indefinite. These two classes, which contained in 1881 67·4 per cent. of the entire population, included "wives and others engaged in household duties," and "children under 14 years," who have in 1891 been distributed amongst the other classes, reducing the numbers in the "Domestic" and "Indefinite" classes, and increasing the numbers in the other classes by the number of women and children owing their subsistence to the occupations grouped thereunder.

The Professional Class.

6. The Professional Class, "including the highest State dignitaries as well as the street-mountebanks"—the Members of Council as well as the snake-charmers and monkey-dancers—numbered 97,251 persons, or 3·2 per cent. of the population, there being in every thousand 398 females, 208 males under 14, and 165 females under 14. There were 54 Sinhalese, 26 Tamils, 8 Burghers, 6 Moormen, 4 Malays, and 2 Europeans and "Others" in every one hundred. Of the Burghers 37 per cent., of the Malays 35, of the Europeans 33, of the "Others" 14, of the Tamils 3·5, of the Sinhalese 2·5, and of the Moormen 2·8 belonged to it. Of the whole, 37 per cent. were resident in the Western, 16 per cent. in the Southern, and 15 per cent. in the Northern Province.

Principal contributors to the Professional Class.

7. The largest contributors to the Professional Class are the persons in employ of the General or Local Government, numbering 42,929 persons, or 44 per cent. of the whole. Next in numbers to the Government servants is the Medical profession, including 11,819 persons, of whom more than one-half are Sinhalese. It was not till a year later that a lady doctor joined the ranks of the Medical profession, and an inception was made with the scheme of instruction of females in medical science, from which so much good is confidently anticipated.

There are 9,598 Buddhist priests, or one to 195 Buddhists.

In teaching 7,603 persons find occupation. Of these a considerable number are schoolmistresses. There are 3,549 Tom-tom Beaters, whose occupation is to beat the native drum, giving notice of official proclamations, or accompanying processions, or providing music at temple-functions and weddings, and such-like gatherings. The Devil-dancers, of whom there were 3,302, are important functionaries in the village community, having less philosophy, but probably more power than the Buddhist priests. Their aid is sought to drive away sickness or to bring sorrow, and a proper knowledge of village life can only be gained by an appreciation of the intimate influence which they exercise over the feelings and actions of the people. The Bullock-dancers and Monkey-dancers are strangers, coming from India, making money by showing off the tricks of their animals. The Bana-book writer copies the Buddhist religious works, writing with a style on an ola-leaf; paper and printing are fast abolishing his occupation. The Petition-drawer is the channel of communication between the Government and the governed. He puts into English, frequently with quaint misapplication of words and phrases, the story of wrong which is to call for redress at the hands of the Governor, or to be submitted to Kachchéri or Court. He often misuses for the creation of falsehood and slander the power of writing halting English, which is all that the school gave him when it made him ashamed of his kinsfolk and honest labour; but, with all his faults, he occupies an indispensable position so long as the language of the Government is not that of the governed. The Pandit is a teacher of native languages, of superior standing to the ordinary schoolmaster, professing knowledge of Sanskrit, and Páli, and Elu, and holding a certificate which entitles him to stated wage for instructing Civil Service Cadets. The Astrologers write the horoscopes and choose the lucky hours which, not knowing, the villager will not enter upon any transaction of any importance.

The Domestic Class.

8. Of the Domestic Class, constituting 2·4 per cent. of the population, there were 73,096 persons, of whom 35,604 were females. The class includes domestic and other servants, and persons whose business it is to provide board and lodging. Of the males 54 per cent. were Sinhalese and 35 per cent. Tamils; of the females 69 per cent. were Sinhalese and 23½ per cent. Tamils. Of the whole number 72 per cent. were resident in the Western, Central, and Southern Provinces, the Western Province having 42 out of the 72. The proportion of domestic servants was 1 in 52 of the population to 1 in 22 in England and Wales in 1881. In England and Wales the proportion of females to males was 22 to 1. In Ceylon the number of each sex is nearly equal. Females in Ceylon are seldom employed except as ladies' maids and children's nurses, and occasionally as cooks. The place of the neat-handed Phyllis is occupied by a "boy"—a term applied to a man servant of any age. Of Barbers there were 6,485, of whom 4,427 were Tamils. The solitary Talipot-bearer is the survivor of the six recorded in 1881, whose duty it was to carry the ornamented talipot-leaf signifying the honourable position of the headman whom it accompanied. The Guides are necessary to the strangers whom the steamers bring in restless crowds to Colombo.

The Commercial Class

9. In the Commercial Class were included 149,858 persons, or one-twentieth of the population. Of these 54 per cent. were Sinhalese and 26 per cent. Moormen, and nearly 45 per cent. were resident in the Western Province. Of the whole number nearly 54 per cent. were "shopkeepers, general traders, petty traders, and boutique-keepers" in the proportion of 5 males to 3 females, of whom nearly one-third were Moormen. The Carters numbered 23,386 persons; the Boatmen 7,970; and the Clerks 7,771. The "Cart-traders," found principally in the North-Central Province, travel about with fish and salt and such-like commodities which they exchange for grain. Where there are no roads the Tavalam men transport goods, principally salt and grain or estate produce slung in bags across the backs of cattle. The Pingo-bearers convey fish from the coast to the interior villages, or betel leaves or other produce, carrying great weights at considerable speed in baskets slung at either end of a flexible kitul or areca shaft borne on the shoulder. The Palanquin-bearers carry the box-like vehicle which fifty years ago was in frequent use, but of which, since the country has been opened up by roads, few are left, and these used only by priests, to whom conveyance in vehicles drawn by animals was supposed to be forbidden. The "Basket-women" bring garden produce to the towns for sale, and hawk their fruits and vegetables about the streets when Municipal laws do not interfere. The "Rikshaw-drawers" are an introduction of recent years. There were none in 1881. The Divers were principally in the Mannár District, where they came for the Pearl Fishery. There was only one Tea-taster, persons following this occupation having described themselves generally as merchants or brokers.

The Agricultural Class.

10. To the fourth or Agricultural Class belong 2,119,868 persons, of whom 1,487,590, or 70 per cent., are Sinhalese. The proportion of the agricultural population to the total population was 70·5 in a hundred, the proportion in England and Wales in 1871 being 15·44, and the average in India in 1881 64·09. Of the entire class nearly 92 in every hundred are cultivators and agricultural labourers.

There are few persons in the Sinhalese population who have not some interest in the soil,—it may be but an infinitesimal fraction of an acre, or a small share in a single tree. These persons, although they are compelled to engage in other occupations than agriculture to find food for themselves and their families, call themselves cultivators in preference to claiming to follow any other occupation, for agriculture is an occupation dignified in Buddhism, and entirely in accord with the natural inclinations of the people. The Climbers, of whom there were 34,131, are employed in picking the fruit of the cocoanut or palmyra tree, walking up the tree with their ankles encircled by a ring of cocoanut or ola leaf, and twisting the fruit off with the hand or cutting down with a heavy curved knife or sickle. Of 34,131 persons so employed 30,417 were Tamils. The occupation is almost confined to the Northern and Eastern Provinces and the Chilaw District. In the Western and Southern Provinces the use of the sickle is hardly known, the fruit being twisted off with the hand. The Fishermen numbered 70,985 persons, of whom one-half were Sinhalese. The Gardeners and Garden Cultivators, numbering 18,907, cultivate betel and vegetables for market. Under the heading "Land Proprietor" are included only those who derive their incomes from land, but are not engaged in agriculture as an occupation. In this class the females largely preponderate. One Sinhalese put himself down as a Coffee Planter, but under the heading "Planter" are included others so employed, as well as tea planters. There were 1,870 Europeans returned as "Planters," of whom the greater number are known to have been engaged in the cultivation of tea. Of 5,618 Tobacco Planters, 4,118 were Tamils, the cultivation of tobacco being confined to the Northern and Eastern Provinces, and to the Chilaw, Puttalam, and Negombo Districts. The Sugarcane Planters were few in number, and all found in the Galle District. The Camel Dealers and Camel Keepers were strangers.

The Industrial Class.

The occupations maintaining each over 20,000.

11. In point of numbers the Industrial Class comes next to the Agricultural, containing 485,766 persons and about one-sixth of the whole population. Of these, 64,845 persons, of whom 89 per cent. are Sinhalese and 77 per cent. females, belonging, three-fourths of them, to the Galle and Mátara Districts, are engaged in making and selling coir, the fibre of the husk covering the cocoanut. The beating out of the fibre from the husk, which is the first process after the steeping of the husk in water, is the work of the women, who, sitting half-nude by the side of the fetid water-holes, strike the husk with a short cudgel upon a stone until the fibre is separated. A woman working all day makes from 10 to 12 cents at this labour. The next process, which also employs women and girls, is the winding of the fibre into thin rope. This is done in front of the houses, and there is hardly a house on the sixty miles of road between the Bentota and Mátara rivers which has not its little heap of golden coir-fibre and yellow rope. Middlemen collect the rope thus made for the merchants, by whom it is sorted, twisted, and exported. The Carpenters number 46,149, of whom 85 per cent. are Sinhalese. Of these, the greater number come from the Colombo, Kalutara, Galle, and Mátara Districts. The Dhobies are the laundressess of Ceylon, and number 38,804, the sexes being nearly equal. The actual work of washing is done as much by women as by men, but the ironing is done by the men, and it is the men who fetch the clothes and interview their employers. The Mat- and Basket-Makers come next, counting 31,420 persons, of whom five out of every six are women. The occupation is an important one, for mats take the place of beds as well as of chairs and couches and carpets. The Goldsmiths and Jewellers number 20,672 ; and the Bakers and Rice-Cake Makers and Coffee Boutique-Keepers (selling coffee and tea by the cup, and light cakes) count 20,102, the females being twice the males in number.

The Industrial occupations maintaining more than 5,000

12. The occupations by which more than 5,000 persons subsist are the following :—

| | |
|---|---|
| Tailors and Seamstresses ... ... ... | 15,859 |
| Masons ... ... ... | 14,785 |
| Road labourers ... ... ... | 14,199 |
| Blacksmiths ... ... ... | 13,810 |
| Potters ... ... ... | 12,959 |
| Fish sellers ... ... ... | 12,873 |
| Grain sellers ... ... ... | 12,811 |
| Toddy-drawers ... ... ... | 11,907 |
| Betel and Arecanut sellers ... ... | 11,268 |
| Tobacco and Cigar sellers ... ... | 9,634 |
| Plumbago diggers and pickers ... ... | 8,760 |
| Cinnamon peelers and sellers ... ... | 8,501 |
| Drapers and Cloth dealers ... ... | 8,302 |
| Sawyers .. ... ... | 7,268 |
| Oil millers and vendors ... ... | 6,963 |
| Cocoanut and Copperah sellers ... ... | 6,053 |
| Railway labourers ... ... ... | 5,431 |

Notes on some occupations.

13. Lace-making supports 3,553 persons, of whom 88 per cent. are Sinhalese, and 62 per cent. live in the Galle District. The art appears to have been brought in by the Portuguese, and improved methods of making introduced at the Church of England School near Galle.

Cotton spinning and weaving gives employment to 4,304 persons, of whom one-half are Tamils. The industry is pursued at Chilaw, Jaffna, and Batticaloa, and at Colombo at the only spinning and weaving mill in Ceylon.

The manufacture of hemp, providing for 3,877 persons, appears to be confined to the Western Province, although it is exported from parts of the Kurunégala District.

The Dress-hirer makes a living out of the lending on hire fine clothes for festival occasions. The Sinhalese bridegroom thinks a frock-coat, gold chain, patent leather shoes, tie, and collar, as much necessities as the bride does a white wedding dress, artificial flowers, a crinoline, and gloves. These are all hired for the occasion.

The bêche-de-mer or sea-slug is collected and dried in the Jaffna and Mannár Districts, and to a small extent at Trincomalee, and exported to China for soup-making.

The chank is a white shell, which is found on the coasts of the Northern Province principally, and exported to India for the making of ornaments and for temple service.

The garland-makers, who are nearly all Tamils, make garlands of flowers for temple use and ceremonial purposes.

In the Batticaloa District one man made a living out of the finding of the toe-rings and other jewellery lost by women at the riverside bathing-place.

The tank-builders and well-sinkers are nearly all immigrant Tamils.

The Indefinite and Non-Productive Class

14. The Indefinite and Non-Productive Class, in which in former enumerations the scholars and children were included, numbered 81,950 persons, or 2·7 per cent. of the population. The General Labourers numbered 53,574 persons, of whom one-half were Sinhalese. The Pensioners, 3,617 in number, are persons drawing Government pensions for length of service, or small allowances from Government or Charitable Societies, there being no Poor Law or workhouse in Ceylon.

The Exiles are the Egyptians and their families.

Description of accompanying tables

15. The following tables will be found useful for comparative purposes. The first gives the number of persons of each nationality in each class, and the proportion of females, and of boys and girls under 14, in 1,000 of the population of each nationality and class. The second gives the percentage in each class of each nationality for the whole Island, and the third gives the like information for each Province as to the three principal nationalities.

Of the nationalities in each class.

16. It will be observed that amongst the Europeans the smallest number of persons is in the Domestic Class, but the proportion of females is higher in this than in any other class. The Agricultural has the largest number of Europeans, this class including the planters, but the number of males is more than double the number of females. The Professional and Agricultural Classes absorb more than 76 per cent. of the European females.

Of the Burghers, the smallest number are in the Domestic and Indefinite Classes, and the largest in the Professional and Industrial. In the Indefinite and Domestic Classes the females exceed the males.

Of the Sinhalese, nearly 73 per cent. are in the Agricultural, and more than 16 per cent. in the Industrial Class. The smallest number of persons are in the Indefinite Class. Of the females the smallest number are in the Indefinite and Professional Classes. In the Industrial and Domestic Classes the females exceed the males in number. In the Industrial Class this is attributable to the large number of females engaged in coir manufacture.

Of the Tamils, there are nearly 75 per cent. in the Agricultural Class (which includes the estate coolies) and 13 per cent. in the Industrial Class, the number of females being lowest in the Domestic and highest in the Agricultural Class. The large proportion of males in the Domestic Class is attributable to the fact that the class of Tamil immigrants employed as domestic servants are not as a rule accompanied by their wives.

Of the Moormen, 42 per cent. are in the Agricultural, 25 per cent. in the Industrial, and nearly 20 per cent. in the Commercial Class. The proportion of females is low in the Commercial Class because a large number of the traders who are Coast Moormen do not bring their women with them.

The Malays have the largest proportion in the Domestic Class of all the races, and more than one-third of their numbers are in the Professional Class.

Distribution according to Provinces.

17. Of the Provinces, the Western and Northern have the highest proportion in the Professional Class, and the Province of Sabaragamuwa the lowest. In the Domestic and Commercial Class the Western is highest and the North-Central lowest. In the Agricultural Class the positions are reversed, the North-Central Province being highest and the Western lowest. In the Industrial Class the Southern is highest and the North-Central lowest. In the Indefinite the Province of Sabaragamuwa is lowest, and the Western holds the highest place. It would not be difficult to make inferences from these figures as to the comparative intelligence of the inhabitants of the various Provinces.

## Number of Persons in each Class, and Number of Females and Children under Fourteen, in One Thousand.

| CEYLON. | All Races. | | | | Europeans. | | | | Burghers. | | | | Sinhalese. | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Total Persons. | Females in 1,000. | Males under 14 in 1,000. | Females under 14 in 1,000. | Total Persons. | Females in 1,000. | Males under 14 in 1,000. | Females under 14 in 1,000. | Total Persons. | Females in 1,000. | Males under 14 in 1,000. | Females under 14 in 1,000. | Total Persons. | Females in 1,000. | Males under 14 in 1,000. | Females under 14 in 1,000. |
| I.—Professional Class ... ... | 97251 | 398 | 208 | 165 | 1528 | 429 | 103 | 101 | 7764 | 503 | 208 | 202 | 52246 | 346 | 223 | 151 |
| II.—Domestic Class ... ... | 73096 | 487 | 197 | 195 | 96 | 677 | 21 | 31 | 320 | 647 | 137 | 128 | 45065 | 549 | 204 | 221 |
| III.—Commercial Class ... ... | 149858 | 393 | 194 | 156 | 529 | 287 | 128 | 94 | 3345 | 487 | 208 | 219 | 81240 | 420 | 201 | 165 |
| IV.—Agricultural Class ... ... | 2119868 | 466 | 216 | 190 | 2075 | 308 | 129 | 110 | 2082 | 479 | 236 | 226 | 1487590 | 471 | 228 | 198 |
| V.—Industrial Class ... ... | 485766 | 532 | 194 | 187 | 130 | 361 | 77 | 54 | 6142 | 498 | 207 | 197 | 332303 | 551 | 198 | 193 |
| VI.—Indefinite and Non-Productive Class... | 81950 | 419 | 185 | 141 | 320 | 431 | 87 | 100 | 1578 | 566 | 161 | 171 | 42714 | 419 | 192 | 161 |

| CEYLON. | Tamils. | | | | Moormen. | | | | Malays. | | | | Veddahs. | | | | Others. | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Total Persons. | Females in 1,000. | Males under 14 in 1,000. | Females under 14 in 1,000. | Total Persons. | Females in 1,000. | Males under 14 in 1,000. | Females under 14 in 1,000. | Total Persons. | Females in 1,000. | Males under 14 in 1,000. | Females under 14 in 1,000. | Total Persons. | Females in 1,000. | Males under 14 in 1,000. | Females under 14 in 1,000. | Total Persons. | Females in 1,000. | Males under 14 in 1,000. | Females under 14 in 1,000. |
| I.—Professional Class ... | 25423 | 453 | 178 | 172 | 5574 | 441 | 222 | 195 | 3549 | 452 | 237 | 205 | — | — | — | — | 1167 | 396 | 177 | 176 |
| II.—Domestic Class ... | 21635 | 387 | 156 | 155 | 4841 | 384 | 329 | 170 | 515 | 404 | 223 | 155 | 1 | 1000 | — | — | 623 | 273 | 164 | 104 |
| III.—Commercial Class ... | 23049 | 406 | 160 | 139 | 39124 | 327 | 212 | 143 | 1542 | 452 | 227 | 188 | 2 | 1000 | — | — | 1027 | 288 | 153 | 135 |
| IV.—Agricultural Class ... | 540191 | 454 | 179 | 166 | 83545 | 472 | 243 | 212 | 1278 | 498 | 230 | 239 | 1222 | 469 | 240 | 195 | 1885 | 425 | 174 | 179 |
| V.—Industrial Class ... | 93500 | 487 | 174 | 165 | 49270 | 503 | 210 | 193 | 1800 | 507 | 210 | 198 | 2 | 500 | — | — | 2619 | 345 | 139 | 122 |
| VI.—Indefinite and Non-Productive Class ... | 20055 | 388 | 152 | 129 | 14812 | 448 | 215 | 166 | 1449 | 479 | 183 | 186 | 2 | — | — | — | 1020 | 293 | 132 | 112 |

**Percentage of each Class in each Nationality.**

| CEYLON | All Races. | Europeans. | Burghers. | Sinhalese. | Tamils. | Moormen. | Malays. | Veddahs. | Others. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| I.—Professional Class ... | 3 2 | 32·6 | 36·6 | 2·5 | 3·5 | 2·8 | 35 | — | 14 |
| II —Domestic do. ... | 2·4 | 2 | 1·5 | 2·2 | 3 | 2·5 | 5·1 | ·09 | 7·5 |
| III.—Commercial do ... | 5 | 11·3 | 15·8 | 4 | 3·2 | 19·8 | 15·2 | ·16 | 12·3 |
| IV.—Agricultural do. ... | 70 5 | 44·3 | 9 8 | 72·9 | 74·6 | 42·4 | 12·6 | 99·43 | 22·6 |
| V.—Industrial do ... | 16·2 | 3 | 28 9 | 16 3 | 12 9 | 25 | 17·8 | ·16 | 31·4 |
| VI.—Indefinite, &c., do. ... | 2 7 | 6 8 | 7 4 | 2 1 | 2·8 | 7·5 | 14·3 | ·16 | 12·2 |

Percentage of each Class in the Three Principal Nationalities according to Provinces.

| | Sinhalese. | Tamils | Moormen |
|---|---|---|---|
| *Western Province.* | | | |
| I.—Professional Class ... | 3 8 | 5·6 | 3 7 |
| II.—Domestic do. ... | 3 5 | 11 3 | 4·6 |
| III.—Commercial do. ... | 6·8 | 11·6 | 27·3 |
| IV.—Agricultural do. ... | 59 | 33 | 7 2 |
| V —Industrial do ... | 23·8 | 26 5 | 43·3 |
| VI —Indefinite and Non-Productive Class ... | 3 1 | 12 | 13·9 |
| *Province of Sabaragamuwa.* | | | |
| I.—Professional Class ... | 1 3 | ·9 | 1·3 |
| II —Domestic do ... | 1 1 | 1 8 | 1·9 |
| III —Commercial do. ... | 1 7 | 2 5 | 32 3 |
| IV —Agricultural do. ... | 90 | 86 | 48 5 |
| V.—Industrial do ... | 4·5 | 7 | 12·6 |
| VI —Indefinite, &c., do ... | 1·4 | 1·8 | 3 4 |
| *North-Western Province.* | | | |
| I —Professional Class ... | 1 4 | 4 | 2·8 |
| II —Domestic do. ... | ·9 | 3 4 | 1 3 |
| III —Commercial do. ... | 1 5 | 6 4 | 14 7 |
| IV.—Agricultural do ... | 90 | 58·5 | 58·6 |
| V —Industrial do. ... | 4 8 | 17 1 | 13 7 |
| VI —Indefinite, &c , do ... | 1 4 | 10·6 | 8 9 |
| *Central Province* | | | |
| I.—Professional Class ... | 2 3 | 1 2 | 2 1 |
| II —Domestic do ... | 2·5 | 2 3 | 2 4 |
| III —Commercial do. ... | 3 | 1·4 | 23·3 |
| IV —Agricultural do ... | 84 1 | 89·4 | 51·5 |
| V —Industrial do. ... | 6 3 | 4 6 | 13 9 |
| VI —Indefinite, &c , do. ... | 1 8 | 1·1 | 6·8 |
| *Province of Uva* | | | |
| I —Professional Class ... | 1 4 | 1·3 | 2 5 |
| II —Domestic do ... | 1·2 | 1 8 | 2 3 |
| III —Commercial do ... | 1 8 | 1 6 | 39 |
| IV.—Agricultural do. ... | 89·6 | 86 4 | 39 |
| V.—Industrial do. ... | 4 5 | 7·5 | 13·3 |
| VI —Indefinite, &c , do ... | 1 5 | 1 4 | 3·9 |
| *North-Central Province.* | | | |
| I —Professional Class ... | 1·2 | 3·3 | ·5 |
| II —Domestic do ... | 8 | 2 8 | ·4 |
| III —Commercial do ... | ·7 | 12·1 | 7·3 |
| IV —Agricultural do. ... | 94 2 | 42·9 | 87·3 |
| V.—Industrial do. ... | 2·5 | 22·6 | 3·2 |
| VI —Indefinite, &c., do ... | 6 | 16 3 | 1·3 |
| *Northern Province* | | | |
| I.—Professional Class ... | 4·6 | 4·6 | 2 1 |
| II —Domestic do. ... | 3 | 2·2 | 1 5 |
| III.—Commercial do. ... | 6 7 | 2·6 | 27·6 |
| IV —Agricultural do. ... | 66 7 | 75·2 | 39·1 |
| V.—Industrial do. ... | 15 2 | 14 | 26·8 |
| VI.—Indefinite, &c., do ... | 3·8 | 1·4 | 2·9 |
| *Eastern Province.* | | | |
| I.—Professional Class ... | 1·4 | 5·2 | 2·1 |
| II —Domestic do ... | 1·3 | 3·2 | 1·2 |
| III.—Commercial do. ... | 4 3 | 4·2 | 9 8 |
| IV.—Agricultural do. ... | 87 5 | 62 2 | 62·8 |
| V —Industrial do ... | 4 2 | 21·8 | 20 |
| VI —Indefinite, &c., do. ... | 1·3 | 3·4 | 4·1 |
| *Southern Province.* | | | |
| I.—Professional Class ... | 2 8 | 3·4 | 6·5 |
| II —Domestic do. ... | 1·9 | 5·3 | 4 |
| III.—Commercial do. ... | 4 | 4·8 | 20·1 |
| IV —Agricultural do. ... | 60·8 | 57·8 | 15·5 |
| V.—Industrial do. ... | 28·5 | 19·7 | 44·2 |
| VI.—Indefinite, &c., do. ... | 2 | 9 | 9·7 |

## CHAPTER XIII.

### THE AGES OF THE PEOPLE.

**Difficulties of the subject, and necessity for special knowledge—Comparison of quinquennial statements of infantile ages in 1881 and 1891—Ages of Europeans—The ages of Burghers and Eurasians—The ages of the Sinhalese—Comparison of the Sinhalese according to Provinces—Of the age-period 0–10—Of the age-period 10–20—Of the adult age-periods 20–30 and 30–40—The Tamils—The Tamils of the Northern and Eastern Provinces—The Moormen population—Failure of proof of centenarianism.**

Difficulties of the subject, and necessity for special knowledge

THE difficulties attendant upon the proper treatment of the subject with which this chapter pretends to deal are considerable. "Most of the problems which Age-tables suggest belong to a special branch of statistical science, and can but rarely be dealt with successfully by an amateur. To make useful deductions from the Age-tables, one should be a specialist in the subject; one should have an ample previous familiarity with the particular sets of figures from which the deductions are to be made; and one should have ample time to verify those deductions. All three qualifications are wanting in the present instance." (Census Report, Madras, 1881.) The material upon which, in the absence of trustworthy registers of births and deaths, a professional actuary would base deductions, is absent; and the value of the figures is diminished by the known ignorance of the people as to their ages. A considerable mass of information has, however, now been collected, and, with an improved system of tabulation in the Registrar-General's Office, there is hope that at some not distant time there may be sufficient material to enable an actuary to frame a life-table. An interesting experiment in this direction was made by an officer of the Registrar-General's Department, but the data upon which his calculations proceeded were not sufficient to give the result authority.

Comparison of quinquennial statements of infantile ages in 1881 and 1891

2. Quinquennial statements of the ages of the people were not made for 1871 and are therefore only available for 1881 and 1891. The comparative table shows that at the two decades the proportion of children between 5 and 10 years of age in the Sinhalese population was identical, while the number under two years of age shows a slight increase, and the number between 2 and 5 a greater decrease. The mortality of girls at infantile ages appears to have been greater than of boys, thus reversing the European rule.

In the Tamils there is shown to be an increase in both sexes at all ages, with the exception of girls between 5 and 10, whose numbers have slightly diminished.

In the Moorman population there is an increase in the infants under two years of age, but a decrease in the subsequent ages:—

Comparison of Quinquennial Tables under 10.

| Ceylon | Year. | 2 and under. | | 2 — 5 | | 5 — 10. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Males. | Females. | Males. | Females. | Males | Females |
| Sinhalese ... | 1881 | 8·6 | 8·9 | 10 3 | 10 3 | 16·7 | 15·6 |
| | 1891 | 8·8 | 8·9 | 9·8 | 9 7 | 16·7 | 15·7 |
| Tamils ... ... | 1881 | 6·3 | 7·8 | 7·2 | 8·7 | 12·1 | 14·2 |
| | 1891 | 6·45 | 7·8 | 7·6 | 8·9 | 12·2 | 14·1 |
| Moormen ... | 1881 | 8·2 | 9·8 | 9·9 | 11 7 | 17·6 | 17 5 |
| | 1891 | 8·7 | 9·9 | 9·2 | 10·7 | 16 7 | 16·7 |

Ages of the Europeans

3. Of the Europeans the largest proportion of the population has at all three periods been of the adult age-period between 20—30, but the proportion at that age was larger in 1881 than in either of the other decades. The number of persons over 30 is largest in 1891, and smallest in 1881, while the proportion is largest of boys in 1881 and of girls in 1871. The proportion of girls under 20 years of age is considerably larger than of boys, consequent perhaps, upon the absence of boys at school in Europe.

Europeans.

| | Year. | 10 and under. | | 20 — | | 30 — | | 40 — | | 50 — | | 60 — | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | M. | F. | M. | F | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| Ceylon ... | 1871 | 15·7 | 35·4 | 10·4 | 13·2 | 36·5 | 23·1 | 21·7 | 16·7 | 10·1 | 6·8 | 3·4 | 2·8 |
| | 1881 | 17·3 | 31·5 | 7·6 | 12·9 | 37·7 | 28·4 | 21·7 | 15·7 | 9·4 | 6·3 | 3·9 | 2·3 |
| | 1891 | 15·5 | 24·1 | 8·7 | 12·4 | 27·7 | 25·04 | 24·9 | 20·9 | 14·4 | 9·7 | 5·7 | 4·6 |

The ages of Burghers and Eurasians

4. Of Burghers and Eurasians the proportion under 10 is highest in 1881 and lowest in 1871. There are more boys th an girls under 10, but the number of girls and women between 10 and 30 is considerably greater than of boys and men. After 50 the mortality in the females is greater than in the male sex.

Burghers and Eurasians.

| | Year. | 10 and under. | | 20 — | | 30 — | | 40 — | | 50 — | | 60 — | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| Ceylon ... | 1871 | 32·1 | 30·5 | 22·6 | 23·9 | 16·1 | 17·7 | 11·2 | 10·4 | 8·1 | 7·2 | 5·3 | 5·05 |
| | 1881 | 34·1 | 33·4 | 22·3 | 22·8 | 15·8 | 17·5 | 11·2 | 10·8 | 7·03 | 6·9 | 5·5 | 4 4 |
| | 1891 | 33·8 | 32·6 | 22·8 | 24·02 | 15·1 | 17·3 | 11·5 | 10·2 | 7·5 | 7 7 | 5·1 | 4·4 |

The ages of the Sinhalese.

5. In the Sinhalese population at each of the three decades the proportion of boys under 10 has been greater than the proportion of girls, but at the age-periods between 10—20 and 20—30 the proportion of girls is greater than of boys, pointing, if the figures are reliable, to higher mortality in the male than in the female sex between 10—20 and 20—30. The proportion of women between 30 and 40 is lower than of men, leading to the suspicion that the Sinhalese women share with others of the gentle sex the vanity of desiring to be thought younger than they are. Between 40 and 50 the proportion of women again rises, only to fall considerably after that age, leading to the inference that the male life is better than the female.

Sinhalese.

| | Year. | 10 and under | | 20 — | | 30 — | | 40 — | | 50 — | | 60 — | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | M | F | M | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M | F.* | M. | F. |
| Ceylon ... | 1871 | 35·1 | 34·2 | 18·8 | 21·01 | 14·9 | 17·8 | 10·9 | 10·5 | 7·6 | 7·4 | 7·3 | 4·9 |
| | 1881 | 35·5 | 34·8 | 19·5 | 21·7 | 16·08 | 18·5 | 10·8 | 9·9 | 6·8 | 7·3 | 7·08 | 4·6 |
| | 1891 | 35·2 | 34·3 | 19·07 | 21·8 | 17 04 | 18·9 | 11·5 | 10·3 | 6·7 | 7·2 | 6·5 | 4·7 |

Comparison of Sinhalese according to Provinces.

Of the age-period 0—10

6. An examination of the figures below gives interesting results. Of boys under 10 the Southern Province had the highest proportion at all three enumerations. The Western Province came next in 1871 and 1881, but in 1891 the Province of Uva preceded it. Of girls the Eastern Province had the highest proportion at all three periods, and Uva came next, except in 1891, when Sabaragamuwa preceded. The precedence of the Western and Southern Provinces is not remarkable, for they are admittedly prosperous. But it is noteworthy that Uva should in 1891 have the highest proportion of boys of all the Provinces but one, and that at all three decades it should have the same position as to the proportion of its girls. The inference would appear to be the existence of a high birth-rate and the absence of infantile mortality.

Of the age-period 10—20.

7. At the next age-period (10—20) the North-Central Province had the highest proportion both of girls and lads in 1871, the Central and North-Western Provinces coming next. In 1881 the North-Central Province had the highest ratio in both sexes, the Southern Province being next in the female sex, the North-Western Province succeeding as to both. In 1891 the Central and Western Provinces had the highest proportion of lads, and the North-Western, Central, and North-Central of girls. The Districts having the highest proportion of girls and lads between 10 and 20 may be assumed to have had the greatest number of births of either sex, and the smallest mortality in the period between 1871 and 1881.

Of the adult age-periods 20—30 and 30—40.

8. In 1871 the Eastern and North-Central Provinces had the highest proportion of both sexes between 20 and 30 years of age, and in 1881 and 1891 this precedence was shared by the North-Central and North-Western Provinces.

In the next adult period (30—40) the North-Central Province had the highest proportion of males in 1871 and 1891, and the highest but one in 1881, Uva and the Eastern Province holding the first and second places in 1871, 1881, and 1891. Of the women between 30 and 40 the Southern Province held the highest proportion in 1871, and in 1881 and 1891 shared the honours with the North-Western and North-Central Provinces.

If prosperity is to be measured by the number of adults in a population, the prosperity of the Provinces containing the maximum of adults is proved by these figures; but the abundance of adults may be the consequence of immigration, showing that there are favourable inducements to colonists, but not necessarily establishing the prosperity of the indigenous population, except in so far that what is good for the one is good for the other.

The low number of adults in the Southern and Western Provinces indicates the emigration which is known to take place from these Provinces.

Sinhalese according to Provinces.

| | Year. | 10 and under. | | 20 — | | 30 — | | 40 — | | 50 — | | 60 — | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| Western Province | 1871 | 37·2 | 35·2 | 18·9 | 21·4 | 13·9 | 17·04 | 9·8 | 10·1 | 6·9 | 7·2 | 7·4 | 4 7 |
| | 1881 | 37·05 | 35·5 | 19·4 | 21·9 | 15·1 | 17·7 | 10·3 | 9·7 | 6·1 | 7·1 | 7·05 | 4·5 |
| | 1891 | 35·4 | 34·4 | 20·09 | 22·3 | 16·3 | 18·3 | 11·08 | 10·1 | 6·6 | 7·1 | 6·1 | 4·7 |
| Province of Sabaragamuwa | 1871 | 33·04 | 33·7 | 16·2 | 18·1 | 13·1 | 17·6 | 11·8 | 10·9 | 9·1 | 8·01 | 9·5 | 6·1 |
| | 1881 | 34·3 | 35 9 | 17·3 | 19·4 | 14·8 | 17·9 | 11·1 | 9·7 | 7·9 | 7·9 | 9·1 | 5 6 |
| | 1891 | 33·6 | 35·3 | 17·2 | 20·5 | 17·5 | 18·4 | 12 | 10·02 | 7·5 | 7·4 | 7·9 | 5 4 |
| North-Western Prov. | 1871 | 32·5 | 32·5 | 19·3 | 22 | 17·3 | 19·8 | 12·1 | 10·6 | 7·9 | 7·3 | 7 | 4·6 |
| | 1881 | 32·09 | 31·9 | 20·8 | 23·9 | 18·7 | 20·3 | 11·6 | 10·5 | 7·5 | 7·2 | 6 3 | 4 |
| | 1891 | 31·9 | 33·02 | 19·5 | 23·8 | 21·3 | 21·02 | 11·9 | 10·2 | 6·8 | 6·9 | 6·2 | 3·5 |
| Central Province | 1871 | 30·6 | 33·9 | 20·1 | 21·5 | 17·3 | 17·7 | 11·8 | 10·2 | 7·8 | 7 3 | 7 4 | 5 1 |
| | 1881 | 32·9 | 35·2 | 20·2 | 22·7 | 17·05 | 17·8 | 11·5 | 9·7 | 6·7 | 7·1 | 7·9 | 4·5 |
| | 1891 | 32·8 | 33·6 | 20·6 | 23·8 | 17·4 | 18·7 | 12·01 | 10·2 | 6·9 | 6·9 | 6·6 | 4·4 |
| Province of Uva | 1871 | 34·8 | 35·3 | 17·8 | 20·2 | 15·1 | 17·7 | 12·4 | 10·2 | 8·7 | 7·3 | 6·3 | 5·3 |
| | 1881 | 35·9 | 36·1 | 18·6 | 21·9 | 16·01 | 18·1 | 11·4 | 8·9 | 7·4 | 7·3 | 7·5 | 5·2 |
| | 1891 | 35·9 | 35·2 | 17·9 | 21·6 | 16·5 | 19·5 | 12·8 | 9·9 | 7·2 | 7·1 | 7·05 | 5 |
| North-Central Prov. | 1871 | 31 | 31·8 | 22 | 24 | 18·1 | 20·1 | 12·6 | 10·6 | 7·6 | 6·8 | 5·3 | 3·8 |
| | 1881 | 30·9 | 30·8 | 21·9 | 25·6 | 19·8 | 21·1 | 11·7 | 10·04 | 8·01 | 6·7 | 4·7 | 3·5 |
| | 1891 | 30·5 | 32·1 | 19·9 | 23·4 | 21·5 | 21·7 | 12·9 | 10·8 | 7·2 | 6·7 | 4·9 | 3·5 |
| Eastern Province | 1871 | 34·4 | 35·8 | 16·7 | 21·4 | 20·2 | 20·8 | 11·2 | 8·5 | 7·5 | 7 | 6 | 3·6 |
| | 1881 | 34·8 | 37·7 | 19·2 | 22·5 | 17·2 | 18·6 | 13·4 | 9·6 | 6·9 | 6·4 | 5·1 | 3·3 |
| | 1891 | 33·5 | 38·8 | 19·4 | 21·4 | 20·6 | 21 | 12·7 | 9·5 | 6·9 | 5·1 | 4·7 | 2·9 |
| Southern Province | 1871 | 38·8 | 34·3 | 19·01 | 20 7 | 13·7 | 17·5 | 9·7 | 11·1 | 7·2 | 7·8 | 6·6 | 4 7 |
| | 1881 | 38·5 | 34·7 | 19·3 | 25·3 | 15·2 | 19·2 | 9·9 | 10·3 | 6·4 | 7·4 | 6 2 | 4·6 |
| | 1891 | 39·9 | 35·04 | 17·5 | 19·4 | 14 3 | 18·6 | 10·5 | 10·7 | 6·3 | 7·6 | 6·7 | 5·1 |

The Tamils.

9. The following statement gives the proportions of the Tamils of the Island, including immigrants. The influence of immigration is marked by the small proportion of children and the large proportion of persons of adult age :—

The Tamils.

| | Year. | 10 and under | | 20 — | | 30 — | | 40 — | | 50 — | | 60 — | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F |
| Ceylon ... | 1871 | 26·4 | 31·8 | 21·2 | 22·2 | 24 | 21·7 | 13·8 | 11·1 | 7·2 | 6·6 | 4·06 | 3 5 |
| | 1881 | 25·6 | 30·6 | 20·7 | 23·2 | 26·1 | 24 | 14·6 | 10·5 | 6·6 | 6 1 | 3·8 | 3·2 |
| | 1891 | 26·2 | 30·8 | 20·5 | 21·6 | 23·3 | 23·1 | 15·7 | 12·1 | 7·5 | 6·6 | 4·2 | 3·6 |

The Tamils of the Northern and Eastern Provinces.

10. In the Northern Province the proportion of children under 10 is lower than in 1881, indicating probably a high death-rate in an unhealthy decade, but the proportion of adults is larger than at either of the previous decades. In the Eastern Province the proportion of children is smaller, but the number of adults is greater than at any previous enumeration. The presence of so large a proportion of adults in these two Provinces is evidence of prosperity.

Tamils in the Northern and Eastern Provinces.

| | Year. | 10 and under. | | 20 — | | 30 — | | 40 — | | 50 — | | 60 — | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| Northern Province ... | 1871 | 35·3 | 34·3 | 18·1 | 19·5 | 15·8 | 18·08 | 12·04 | 11·7 | 8·6 | 8·02 | 5·3 | 4·6 |
| | 1881 | 34·4 | 33·6 | 19·3 | 20·2 | 17·1 | 18·7 | 12·2 | 11·3 | 7·8 | 8·1 | 5·4 | 4·8 |
| | 1891 | 32·3 | 31·3 | 20·8 | 21·4 | 17·1 | 18·2 | 12·2 | 12·02 | 7·9 | 8 3 | 5·6 | 5·4 |
| Eastern Province ... | 1871 | 38·5 | 39·4 | 16·9 | 21·4 | 17·3 | 17·3 | 11·8 | 9·7 | 7·0 | 6·3 | 5·07 | 3·4 |
| | 1881 | 38·6 | 39·2 | 17·9 | 21·8 | 17·1 | 17·9 | 11·7 | 9·3 | 6·5 | 6·1 | 4·8 | 3 3 |
| | 1891 | 36·1 | 37·2 | 18 6 | 22·2 | 18·1 | 18·4 | 12·4 | 10·3 | 7·2 | 6·4 | 4·5 | 3·4 |

The Moorman population.

11. Of the Moorman population of the Kalutara District the very large proportion of the male population under 10 years of age is at once noticeable, but it is accounted for by the small number at the adult ages, which is a consequence of the emigration of the adult population. In the female population there is a decrease in the proportion of girls, but the proportions of women of adult ages have increased. In the Batticaloa District the proportion of children of both sexes is very high, while the proportion of females in the periods 10—20 and 20—30 has increased in 1891 as compared with both the previous decades. In Puttalam and Chilaw there is the same increase in the proportions of the females at adult ages, but there is a decrease in the number of children. The increase in the number of adult females points to more accurate enumeration in all these Districts.

The Moorman Population in Five Districts.

| | Year. | 10 and under. | | 20 — | | 30 — | | 40 — | | 50 — | | 60 — | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| Kalutara District ... | 1871 | 46·08 | 37·3 | 14·8 | 20·4 | 9·8 | 15 7 | 8·6 | 11·2 | 6·4 | 6·6 | 7·8 | 4·08 |
| | 1881 | 45·8 | 36·5 | 15·08 | 21·2 | 9·2 | 16·4 | 9·4 | 11·3 | 6 | 6·3 | 7·6 | 4·4 |
| | 1891 | 43·1 | 33·5 | 15·3 | 22 | 12·2 | 16·8 | 9·8 | 11·8 | 6·6 | 8·1 | 7·2 | 3·8 |
| Puttalam and Chilaw Districts | 1871 | 32·4 | 35·6 | 17·4 | 20·6 | 15·9 | 19·03 | 13·7 | 10·5 | 9·8 | 7·2 | 6·3 | 3·9 |
| | 1881 | 34 | 36·6 | 19 | 22·2 | 16·9 | 17·9 | 12 02 | 10·8 | 8 | 6·3 | 6·02 | 3·4 |
| | 1891 | 32·8 | 33·4 | 19·3 | 23·8 | 18·7 | 19·7 | 13 8 | 10·5 | 6·9 | 7·05 | 4·9 | 3·3 |
| Mannár District ... | 1871 | 38·9 | 35·4 | 17·3 | 20·9 | 15·7 | 20·5 | 13·4 | 10·6 | 7·4 | 6·1 | 4·05 | 3·5 |
| | 1881 | 38 7 | 37·3 | 17·7 | 21 3 | 18·3 | 20·1 | 11·9 | 10·06 | 6 2 | 5·7 | 4·1 | 3·5 |
| | 1891 | 30·7 | 34·7 | 21·1 | 24·3 | 20 9 | 16·8 | 13·08 | 12·2 | 7·3 | 5·8 | 4·5 | 3·5 |
| Batticaloa District ... | 1871 | 47·7 | 43·9 | 13·1 | 19·3 | 13·9 | 16·1 | 9·9 | 8·8 | 6·6 | 5·7 | 4·7 | 3·1 |
| | 1881 | 48·1 | 44·9 | 14·1 | 20·6 | 14·5 | 15·4 | 9·6 | 8·4 | 5·8 | 5·1 | 4·5 | 3·2 |
| | 1891 | 45·7 | 43 | 16·1 | 21·06 | 16·01 | 16·5 | 9·9 | 9·04 | 6·1 | 5·3 | 3·4 | 2·8 |
| Trincomalee District | 1871 | 37·8 | 39·3 | 20·1 | 24·5 | 17·2 | 16·9 | 11·4 | 9·07 | 5·8 | 4·9 | 3·9 | 3·06 |
| | 1881 | 39·9 | 43·3 | 18·04 | 20·9 | 17·6 | 18·3 | 11·3 | 7·8 | 5·7 | 5·4 | 4·7 | 2·5 |
| | 1891 | 37·2 | 40 3 | 21·3 | 25·6 | 16·03 | 16·8 | 12·3 | 8·09 | 5·4 | 4·8 | 5·2 | 2·7 |

Failure of proof of centenarianism

12. In a large number of cases I referred to the District authorities for proof of the ages of persons stating themselves to be 100 years of age or more, but in no single instance was anything in the shape of evidence forthcoming sufficient to fix the age.

## CHAPTER XIV.

### EXPENDITURE.

**Expenditure of 1891 and 1881 compared—District expenditure—Number of persons to each enumerator—Strength of the office—Special good service of Mr. J. A. Ohlmus—The map—Service of the military—The Government Printer—Comparative statistical information—Conclusion.**

Expenditure of 1891 and 1881 compared.

THE expenditure on the Census of 1891 (including a sum of Rs. 243·75 reserved for contingencies) amounts to Rs. 129,253·47, as compared with Rs. 107,314·57 in 1881, showing an increase of Rs. 21,938·90.

In the expenditure of 1881 there was no charge for the salary of the Superintendent. I performed the duties of the office in addition to those of Registrar-General. This was an economical proceeding, advantageous in other ways; and I would suggest its adoption in the future.

The salary of the Superintendent for the two years amounted to Rs. 10,529.

The gross expenditure for every thousand persons enumerated was, if the Superintendent's salary be included, Rs. 42·91, and if it be excluded Rs. 39·41, as compared with Rs. 39 in 1881 and Rs. 41 in 1871.

The addition of the column for Birthplace to the Census Schedules, and the tabulation of the necessary details, added one-fourth to the number of entries in tabulation. The cost for every thousand entries was in 1881 Rs. 12·94 and in 1891 Rs. 10·73, or, if the Superintendent's salary be excluded, Rs. 9·85.

The additional information supplied as to the Roman Catholics added to the work of tabulation.

Comparison of the volumes of the Reports for 1871, 1881, and 1891 will show the greater fullness of the Report for 1891. The Report for 1871 was published in two years and a half from the date of the Census, and that of 1881 in one year and ten months.

The items of expenditure of 1881 and 1891 are compared below.

In 1891 a sum of Rs. 9,823 88 was paid for printed forms The increase in the item for travelling expenses was caused by the separation of the offices of the Registrar-General and Superintendent of Census.

Comparative Statement of Expenditure.

| | 1881. Rs. c. | 1891. Rs. c. | Increase. Rs. c. | Decrease. Rs. c. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Enumeration ... | 74,069 67 | 68,685 72 | — | 5,383 95 |
| Establishment ... | 21,210 27 | 41,659 9 | 20,448 82 | — |
| Rent ... | 4,704 60 | 2,695 0 | — | 2,009 60 |
| Bookbinders ... | 326 25 | 444 3 | 117 78 | — |
| Furniture ... | 600 72 | 1,174 60 | 573 88 | — |
| Travelling Expenses ... | 705 87 | 2,097 17 | 1,391 30 | — |
| Carriage of Forms ... | 203 9 | 306 71 | 103 62 | — |
| Printed Forms and Stationery | 3,880 0 | 10,605 1 | 6,725 1 | — |
| Miscellaneous ... | 1,364 10 | 1,342 39 | — | 21 71 |
| Contingencies ... | 250 0 | 243 75 | — | 6 25 |
| Total ... | 107,314 57 | 129,253 47 | 21,938 90 | — |

District expenditure.

2. The expenditure on enumeration in the Districts is shown in the accompanying statement :—

Cost of Enumeration of One Thousand Persons.

| | | 1881. Rs. c. | 1891. Rs. c. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Western Province ... | Colombo Municipality | 24 0 | 24 45 |
| | Colombo District | 21 0 | 18 18 |
| | Kalutara do. | 20 0 | 17 1 |
| | Negombo do. | 47 0 | 37 11 |
| Province of Sabaragamuwa | Ratnapura do. | 12 0 | 17 17 |
| | Kégalla do. | 33 0 | 23 96 |
| North-Western Province... | Kurunégala do. | 41 0 | 33 37 |
| | Puttalam do | | 21 19 |
| | Chilaw do. | | |
| Central Province ... | Kandy do. | 36 0 | 22 10 |
| | Mátalé do. | 37 0 | 27 82 |
| | Nuwara Eliya District | 17 0 | 12 45 |
| Province of Uva ... | Badulla do. | 26 0 | 33 90 |
| North-Central Province ... | Nuwarakalawiya do. | 14 0 | 38 6 |
| Northern Province ... | Jaffna do. | 33 0 | 22 47 |
| | Mannár do. | 43 0 | 30 4 |
| | Mullaittívu District | 70 0 | 54 48 |
| | Vavuniya do. | 92 0 | 49 95 |
| Eastern Province ... | Batticaloa do. | 23 0 | 20 12 |
| | Trincomalee do. | 21 0 | 20 76 |
| Southern Province ... | Galle do. | 16 0 | 21 69 |
| | Mátara do. | 15 0 | 13 51 |
| | Hambantota do. | 24 0 | 17 32 |

The low rate in the Nuwara Eliya District is due to the inclusion in the population of the estate population, which was enumerated without cost.

The expenditure in each District in 1891, as compared with 1881, is given in the accompanying statement :—

Statement of Expenditure in each District.

| | 1881. Rs. c. | Total. Rs. c. | 1891. Rs. c. | Total. Rs. c. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| WESTERN PROVINCE. | | | | |
| Municipality of Colombo | 9,617 50 | | 4,345 0 | |
| Colombo District ... | | | 6,620 19 | |
| Negombo do. ... | 2,313 0 | | 2,257 45 | |
| Kalutara do. ... | 3,535 66 | | 3,340 59 | |
| | | 15,466 16 | | 16,563 23 |
| PROVINCE OF SABARAGAMUWA | | | | |
| Ratnapura District ... | 4,987 73 | | 4,008 32 | |
| Kégalla do. ... | 1,494 12 | | 2,587 47 | |
| | | 6,481 85 | | 6,595 79 |
| NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCE. | | | | |
| Kurunégala District ... | 7,054 0 | | 5,514 50 | |
| Puttalam do. ... | 3,213 3 | | 889 49 | |
| Chilaw do. ... | | | 1,340 15 | |
| | | 10,267 3 | | 7,744 14 |
| CENTRAL PROVINCE. | | | | |
| Kandy District ... | 10,566 2 | | 6,378 63 | |
| Mátalé do. ... | 3,231 16 | | 2,128 59 | |
| Nuwara Eliya do. ... | 1,709 82 | | 1,365 5 | |
| | | 15,507 0 | | 9,872 27 |
| PROVINCE OF UVA. | | | | |
| Badulla District ... | 4,291 74 | | 5,397 65 | |
| | | 4,291 74 | | 5,397 65 |
| NORTH-CENTRAL PROVINCE. | | | | |
| Anurádhapura District ... | 957 62 | | 2,867 38 | |
| | | 957 62 | | 2,867 38 |
| NORTHERN PROVINCE. | | | | |
| Jaffna District ... | 8,701 40 | | 6,283 60 | |
| Mannár do. ... | 934 0 | | 737 50 | |
| Mullaittívu do. ... | 534 50 | | 400 0 | |
| Vavuniya do. ... | 730 0 | | 407 60 | |
| | | 10,899 90 | | 7,828 70 |
| EASTERN PROVINCE. | | | | |
| Batticaloa District ... | 2,395 37 | | 2,469 12 | |
| Trincomalee do. ... | 480 25 | | 561 32 | |
| | | 2,875 62 | | 3,030 44 |
| SOUTHERN PROVINCE. | | | | |
| Galle District ... | 3,309 85 | | 4,839 85 | |
| Mátara do. ... | 2,303 78 | | 2,398 70 | |
| Hambantota do. ... | 1,709 12 | | 1,547 57 | |
| | | 7,322 75 | | 8,786 12 |
| | | 74,069 67 | | 68,685 72 |

Number of persons to each enumerator

3. The number of houses and persons to each enumerator is compared in the following table :—

Number of Houses and Persons to each Enumerator.

| | 1881. | | 1891. | | | 1881. | | 1891. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Houses. | Persons. | Houses. | Persons. | | Houses. | Persons. | Houses. | Persons. |
| Western Province ... | 60 | 334 | 76 | 418 | Colombo Municipality | 85 | 436 | 87·5 | 463·5 |
| | | | | | Colombo District ... | 65 | 389 | 73 | 417 |
| | | | | | Negombo ... | 59 | 328 | 76 | 412 |
| | | | | | Kalutara ... | 69 | 383 | 73 | 397 |
| Province of Sabaragamuwa* ... | — | — | 44 | 254 | Ratnapura ... | 36 | 194 | 31·5 | 169 |
| | | | | | Kégalla ... | 59 | 337 | 64 | 397 |
| North-Western Province | 41 | 214 | 52 | 239 | Kurunégala District... | 43 | 228 | 53 | 240 |
| | | | | | Puttalam | 38 | 185 | 40 | 164·5 |
| | | | | | Chilaw | | | 57 | 290 |
| Central Province ... | — | — | 53 | 402 | Kandy ... | — | — | 54 | 414·5 |
| | | | | | Mátalé ... | — | — | 52 | 284 |
| | | | | | Nuwara Eliya ... | — | — | 48 | 507·5 |
| Province of Uva ... | — | — | 27 | 205 | — | — | — | — | — |
| North-Central Province... | 34 | 149 | 27 | 113 | — | — | — | — | — |
| Northern Province ... | 73 | 396 | 84 | 464 | Jaffna ... | 86 | 485 | 99 | 564 |
| | | | | | Mannár ... | 46 | 209 | 51 | 238 |
| | | | | | Mullaittívu ... | 45 | 182 | 46 | 198 |
| | | | | | Vavuniya ... | 24 | 109 | 38·5 | 154 |
| Eastern Province ... | 108 | 585 | 70·5 | 384 | Batticaloa ... | 110 | 605 | 72 | 385 |
| | | | | | Trincomalee ... | 102 | 504 | 64 | 381 |
| Southern Province ... | 83 | 413 | 70 | 358 | Galle ... | 76 | 379 | 67 | 339 |
| | | | | | Mátara ... | 96 | 486 | 70 | 368 |
| | | | | | Hambantota ... | 81 | 395 | 78 | 390 |

* Included in the Western Province in 1881.

4. The establishment of my office at its greatest strength numbered fifty-seven persons, the average from 1st January, 1891, to 1st May, 1892, being 49. The tabulation began in the last week of May, 1891, and was done in the last week of February, 1892. The clerks were paid salaries ranging from Rs. 20 to Rs. 35 a month, but the system of payment by results enabled an industrious clerk to add considerably to his income. Of the industry of the clerks generally I am able to speak in high terms, and I much regret that I have not been more successful in procuring for them permanent offices in the subordinate Clerical Service, for which their training well fits them. From the general body of clerks I may single out Mr. M. S. Ramalingam, whose industry and capacity deserve to be recorded. Strength of the office.

5. Of the services of my Chief Clerk, Mr. J. A. Ohlmus, I cannot write too highly. It has been his lot to be employed in the Superintendent's Office at every Census, and he has thus acquired an extraordinary knowledge of details, which, added to his intelligence and industry, renders him a most valuable officer. He has been to me a most devoted assistant, and I should have been lost without him. He has deserved very well of the Government, and I hope that it will be found possible to reward services which deserve special recognition. Special good service of Mr. J. A. Ohlmus

6. The map which is prefixed to this volume was prepared at my request by the Surveyor-General, to whom thanks are due for the care bestowed upon it. The map

7. His Excellency the Major-General was good enough to allow the enumeration of the Military to be done by soldiers, and the work was efficiently and intelligently carried out. Services of the Military

8. Special thanks are due to the Government Printer, whose personal attention contributed so much to the regular transmission of the necessary forms and to the absence of complaints. This report and the tables and lists in the appendices prove the excellent manner in which the work of the Department under Mr. G. J. A. Skeen is done. The Government Printer.

9. It was my intention to include in this report statements showing the progress of the revenue, and the growth of railways and roads, and a general comparative statement of the condition of the Island in 1881 compared with 1891. I have received from various Departments valuable returns, but unfortunately the omission of others to give me what I asked for has rendered a general statement impossible. Comparative Statistical information

The courtesy of the Secretary of the Planters' Association and of several large employers of labour has enabled me to collect a mass of interesting information relative to the rate of wages, of which I have been unable to make the use which I desired until more complete information is available.

10. The various officers of Government, to whose co-operation and advice I owe so much, will allow me to record here the weight of my obligations. Conclusion.

LIONEL LEE,
Superintendent of Census, Ceylon.

Jaffna, August 2, 1892.